THE TIMES

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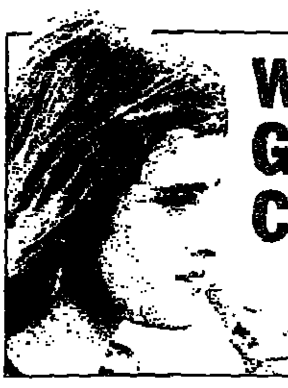

WE TEST THE GUILT-FREE CHOCOLATE

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Britain could be ousted from 'G3'

Rivals close ranks against euro chief

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR and Tony Blair were united in condemnation yesterday of a European commissioner's call for Britain to be excluded from a seat at world financial summits if it did not join a single currency.

Kenneth Clarke also joined the criticism, so that Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the commissioner responsible for monetary union, achieved the rare feat of putting the Chancellor on the same side as his sternest Eurosceptic critics.

The Prime Minister described the commissioner's suggestion that Britain would be marginalised if it did not adopt the euro as absurd, arrogant and unacceptable.

Mr de Silguy provoked the controversy in a speech in Washington in which he conjured up an image of a "G3", comprising America, Japan and the EU, taking the place of the G7 group of the West's most prosperous nations. As the euro, the dollar and the yen would become the dominant world currencies, Europe would have to speak with one voice, he told the Institute of International Finance.

The commissioner did not name Britain, but if his plan were implemented, the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England would no longer hold regular meetings with their international counterparts. The interests of the pound would also be marginalised in global talks.

Mr de Silguy said economic and monetary union was "irreversible" and the future system of co-ordinating international monetary policy had to be finalised before the launch of the single currency.

"What will be the framework for this co-ordination? Should the G7 finance format be modified? Should a G3 be created? It will be essential for the euro area to be able to speak with one voice. This will be the case for monetary policy since it will be represented by the president of the European Central Bank.

"But the arrangements for its political representation — that is at ministerial level — have still to be defined."

Both Tory and Labour politicians pounded on the speech to claim that they would adopt the toughest negotiating stance on Europe. Mr Major told a rally in London's Docklands: "Today a European commissioner has suggested that if Britain does not join the single currency, we would be marginalised in world discussions. This is absurd and arrogant.

"London is one of the financial centres of the world and will stay that way. The suggestion that the EU would take over all representation on economic policy for members of the single currency is just the kind of danger I have been warning about."

Mr Blair also made clear that the idea was unacceptable. "There is no question of a Labour government agreeing to the G3 rather than a G7. Under Labour, Britain will retain its seat a the top table of all international summits."

A spokesman for Mr Clarke also dismissed Mr de Silguy's vision. "The existing G7 serves Britain and Europe's interests very well," he said. "We see no need for existing formal arrangements to be altered whether or not Britain joins EMU. Mr de Silguy is obviously speculating out loud, we don't think he is formally proposing this change."

The spokesman would not comment on whether Mr de Silguy had been misguided in making his thoughts public — especially as Jacques Santer, the Commission president, was accused of meddling in the British election by attacking Eurosceptics last week.

Tory Euro-sceptics were appalled. Iain Duncan-Smith said: "If anybody now still believes that the objective of people like Mr de Silguy is not the full creation of a European state, then this is the final evidence. Everything that has taken place has been part of that. Mr de Silguy is responsible for the single currency, and clearly understands that. People in Britain must wake up."

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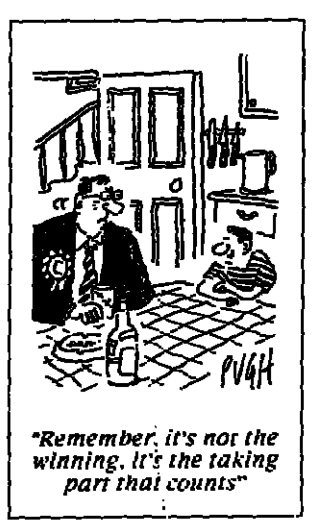

"Remember, it's not the winning, it's the taking part that counts"

Final push in marginals

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
ARTHUR LEATHLEY
AND JAMES LANDALE

TONY BLAIR last night invoked the memory of John Smith as he launched Labour's final push for victory with his predecessor's appeal for "the chance to serve."

He recalled the words of Labour's last leader on the night before he died in 1994, when he had declared: "Let me tell you what we want. All we ask is the chance to serve."

Mr Blair said: "That is what we want, to ask the British people over the next few days for the chance to serve. We believe we can make this country better. We believe in the decency and essential good nature of the British people. We say to them, come out on the first of May and give us your trust and support and together we will build a better Britain."

As the parties entered their last frantic 24 hours of campaigning, John Major warned voters that they faced their "day of destiny" tomorrow.

The general election would be a "battle for Britain", he said.

Although ministers appear privately resigned to the prospect of defeat, there was no sign that Mr Major shared their view.

And at his final campaign rally in London he raised the spectre of a high-inflation economy, a powerless nation and higher crime rates under a Labour government as he turned his fire on Mr Blair's failure to spell out detailed policy.

He told voters to think carefully about what has been achieved over the last 18 years. He said that the prosperity built up under his leadership and under Baroness Thatcher would not be sustained by a Labour Government.

Mr Blair said he was working "flat out" for every vote as he sent nearly 200 former MPs out of their own constituencies

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ANTHONY UPTON

Caprice Bourret in London yesterday. "I'm fine," she said. Her boyfriend was cut by bottle

Model Caprice is mugged

BY JOANNA BALE
AND ADRIAN LEE

CAPRICE BOURRET, the model, was robbed by a gang of youths in a street attack in which her boyfriend was left covered in blood after being hit with a bottle.

Three hooded teenagers threatened the 24-year-old former Wonderbra model and attacked her companion, Robert Tchenguiz, shortly after they left a friend's house in north London to return home.

Mr Tchenguiz, 35, a London property developer, suffered serious leg injuries when the youths stole a watch, mobile phone and handbag. The attack took place in Stormont Road, Highgate, on Sunday.

A friend described yesterday how Mr Tchenguiz arrived home with Miss Bourret and had to be helped, covered in blood, upstairs. He was barely able to walk.

"He was a mess and in a lot of pain," said the friend. Mr Tchenguiz's jogging trousers and white T-shirt were bloodstained.

Another friend of the California-born model said yesterday: "They took everything she had on her, but Caprice did not resist and she was not hurt. Robert was beaten up when he tried to resist."

During a photographic shoot in Piccadilly yesterday, Miss Bourret, who earns an estimated £1 million a year, said: "I'm fine". Her empty handbag was found in Knightsbridge after the attack.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said that after the mugging, the couple were taken to the Royal Free Hospital. The man was treated and released.

British Library readers may have to pay

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE British Library is exploring plans to introduce charges for its reading room. After 250 years of free access, it plans to broach the subject with its 400,000 readers by distributing a questionnaire this week.

Members will be asked how they feel about 21 possible annual charges, ranging from £50 to £700 for long-term access. The research findings will be presented in to the British Library Board in July for a final decision.

The writers Malcolm Bradbury and Antonia Fraser were among regular users who yesterday expressed dismay at the news, arguing that the nation has a basic right to free knowledge.

Lady Antonia, who has used the reading room for 43 years, said: "I think that citizens of this country should unquestionably have their rights to visit freely great collections which have been built up for them."

Professor Bradbury said: "It's a world-class research library. It should be available to scholars on the principle of their research."

Etrenne Lymbery, chairman of the British Library Regular Readers' Group, said: "We are utterly against charges. A lot of people who work in the library are doing specialist research and are very short of money. We'll do our best to oppose it."

Charging is a last resort for the cash-strapped library whose image has been tarnished by the debacle of the new building in St Pancras, into which it will have moved by 1999 from the British Museum. While the original budget was £116 million, costs have risen to £511 million, though last year's report by the Commons Public Accounts Committee blamed politicians and civil servants rather than the library.

Dr Brian Lang, chief executive of the British Library, defended the proposals: "The Library too expresses dismay at having to look at the possibility of charging.

"Our grant-in-aid [£87 million this year] is dropping. No matter what government comes to power, we expect that to drop. We're under substantial financial pressure."

Taylor: changed the face of football

Courts pay tribute to Lord Taylor

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

COURT hearings were halted yesterday as judges and lawyers gathered to pay tribute to Lord Taylor of Gosforth.

Lord Taylor, who changed the face of football with his report into the Hillsborough disaster and went on to become an outspoken Lord Chief Justice, died of a brain tumour at his home in Guildord, surrounded by his four children on Monday evening. He would have been 67 tomorrow.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, led the tributes to his predecessor, saying: "He spoke out fearlessly and eloquently, but without being factious or petty. As leader of the judiciary he commanded, effortlessly, the affection and respect of his fellow judges, and of many others throughout the world. He was loved and admired by those who worked for him. He was above all a wise, just and humane judge."

Lord Taylor was also praised by the football community and the Hillsborough Family Support Group, whose chairman Trevor Hicks said he had broken down barriers between the judiciary and the public. "He will be remembered for his perspicacity, his professionalism, dignity and bravery. We and football will be forever in his debt."

Lord Taylor had been charged with ensuring the future safety of football grounds after 95 people were killed at a 1989 FA Cup semi-final. He recommended the removal of perimeter fences and the introduction of all-seat stadiums. Graham Kelly of the Football Association, said: "Quite simply he changed the face of football."

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Prince attacks 'god of new technology'

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

MODERN society had made a god of new technology at the expense of traditional values and language, the Prince of Wales said last night.

In an address at St James's Palace, London, he said: "Many people look in dismay at what has been happening to our language in the very place where it evolved.

"They wonder what it is about our country and society that our language has become so impoverished, so sloppy and so limited — that we have arrived at such a dismal wasteland of banality, cliché and casual obscenity."

Speaking at a silver jubilee reception for the traditionalist Prayer Book Society, the Prince wondered what it was about tradition and traditional values that "at the mere mention of these words, normally intelligent people go into paroxysms of rage and indigna-

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Marginals are focus in final days of campaign

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to the marginals that will decide tomorrow's election. A large part of the £3 *million* given to the party during the campaign is being spent on a last-minute advertising onslaught.

Throughout the day he warned *his* own troops against complacency, saying in speech after speech that "it isn't over until it's over."

Mr Blair said the Tories did not deserve to be elected and *New Labour* certainly was new. "The Tories have changed for the worst we have changed for the better," he said. Mr Blair, speaking to an audience of 400 party supporters in the Bristol Council offices, said there were many differences between Labour and the Tories. "Here is another one the buck will stop with me."

Mr Major ordered scores of *ministers out into the* marginals, as well as virtually all the official staff at Central Office. Paddy Ashdown's resources also were also being concentrated on his target seats, with the Cowley Street headquarters in London being emptied, amid claims from Liberal Democrat strategists that the party was "close to a breakthrough."

Mr Ashdown had a warning of his own about Labour: "If all that changes on Thursday is the nameplate on Number 10, it will be a disaster for this country."

Mr Major, meanwhile, delivered a *stark message*: "The country's future, our economy, our nation and the bright prospects for the fututre of Britain hang in the balance."

Mr Major concentrated heavily on the economic growth seen over the last 18 years, emphasising the curbing of inflation as the key achievement.

Earlier yesterday Michael Heseltine told voters that they were "sleepwalking into a nightmare" as he, too, stepped up the fight for the floating voter.

Mr Blair responded angrily to Mr Heseltine's claim. "How arrogant and *insulting* these Tories are," Mr Blair said. "The disaster is a Tory fifth term."

JOHN GILES

LOYALIST
VICTIMS
F IRA SIN

Prisoners display a loyalist flag on the prison roof. They are protesting about security restrictions imposed after an IRA escape attempt

Loyalists riot in Maze prison

By Richard Ford
HOME CORRESPONDENT

LOYALIST prisoners went on the rampage at the Maze jail yesterday in protest at security restrictions imposed after an IRA escape attempt. They climbed the walls of H-blocks in the jail near Lisburn, Co Antrim and set fire to the base of two watchtowers in exercise yards. Smoke rose above the jail as prisoners on the roof unfurled a banner bearing the words: "Loyalist Victims of IRA sins".

The protest at the jail, which houses hundreds of republican and loyalist terrorists, erupted when the loyalists were penalised for refusing to be locked into the cells for headcounts twice a day.

Managers at the jail withdrew prison officers from H-blocks 1 and 2 after the prisoners emerged onto the roof.

Last night Billy Wright, a *leading loyalist terrorist* who was transferred to the Maze on Friday, said he would join the protest. Wright, from Portadown, Co Armagh is serving eight years for threatening to kill a woman.

Republican prisoners have co-operated with the tough new security measures imposed as a result of an IRA attempt to tunnel out of the Maze last month. The loyalists oppose the tougher measures, including full searches, twice-daily head counts and random cell checks and say they are being penalised because of *IRA* activities.

The Prison Service punished the loyalists by denying family visits and suspending all temporary releases except in extreme compassionate circumstance. Relatives of loyalist prisoners protested at the *punishment* outside the prison gates and relatives of republican prisoners leaving the prison were abused.

John White, spokesman for the Ulster Democratic Party, which has close links with the outlawed Ulster Defence Association, said: "The prisoners are very, very angry. They see *this as* a form of collective punishment."

Mr White warned the government: "It is going to get very seriously out of hand if dialogue doesn't take place. It is not only an issue involving the prisoners, it has taken on greater proportions on the outside.

"There is a great deal of anger and frustration outside too and I *am* fearful *it* may get out of control altogether."

Alan Shannon, chief executive of the Northern Ireland Prison Service, said the day's events had not taken him by *surprise.* "*I said it would be* a bit of an uphill struggle because the prisoners had been telling us they were not at all happy with what we were proposing."

Police avert chaos by ignoring bomb hoax

By Stewart Tendler
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND Yard yesterday thwarted an attempt by the IRA to bring one of the busiest sections of the M25 to a standstill by ignoring a hoax bomb threat.

Police in Kent, Surrey and Hertfordshire also received threats. They decided to close more than 40 miles of the motorway, causing lengthy traffic jams around the South Mimms service area and links to the Channel ports via the *M20* and *M26*.

The terrorist warnings began just before 7am. One threatened the M25 between junction 14 near Heathrow and junction 16 with the M40. The area includes the junction with the M4 where there are roadworks, which is routinely one of the most congested stretches.

Yesterday Scotland Yard decided to let traffic continue as the road was checked for bombs. A spokesman said the decision had been based on a professional assessment taking into account the nature of the threat. The Yard has built up considerable expertise in its joint Special Branch/Anti-Terrorist Branch control room to *assess* each *warning*.

However, motorists have made their own assessment of the threats, and are giving up using the motorways and turning to smaller road systems, the AA said yesterday. The volume of traffic on the A-road network was growing daily, and there was evidence that drivers were postponing trips in the hope they would not face jams.

The Freight Transport Association said the six days of IRA disruption during the election campaign had cost the industry at least £30 million. The cost to smaller hauliers, private and company car drivers could be at least double that.

Police say that the number of bomb-*warning calls where a device is* actually planted has fallen during the campaign from one in two calls to one in seven. The IRA callers appear to have adapted to counter the Home Office's advice to companies about bomb threats, and are careful not to leave any clues by using fake accents, going from telephone kiosk to telephone kiosk, and calling nursing homes, hospitals, and on two ocscasions private homes.

Yesterday the M1 was closed for seven miles for over three hours: a 20-mile section of the M5 was closed for three hours: sections of the M3 and M27 in Hampshire were shut; incoming flights to Southampton airport were *halted:* and *Terminal Two at* Heathrow and Gatwick's north and south terminals were all partially evacuated.

BA plans to move from Paris airport

British Airways is planning to switch all of its Paris services away from Charles de Gaulle airport because of concerns over security. The company is concerned that Air Algérie, which has been a target for terrorists, has been allowed to open a check-in desk next to its own at the airport.

Yesterday BA checked in passengers at a nearby hotel rather than risk operating next to the Air Algérie desk. George Cooper, BA's European director, said this had caused "unacceptable" disruption for passengers. Last night the airline applied to the French civil aviation authority for approval to move its Paris services to Orly airport from May 1. Mr Cooper said: "The poor level of customer service we are currently offering at Charles de Gaulle is a direct result of our security concerns. I cannot allow it to continue. Our passengers and staff are fed up with the disruption."

The switch would affect up to 60 services a day and involve 6,000 passengers on flights from 13 British airports including Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester, and Edinburgh. BA is particularly concerned that, unlike other French airports, Charles de Gaulle has not laid on any extra security for the resumption of Air Algérie flights.

Firefighters locked out

Striking firefighters were locked out of fire stations throughout Essex yesterday in a tough response by their *employers which effectively prolonged the men's second* 24-hour stoppage by 15 hours. The Fire Brigades Union warned of a growing risk of industrial action spreading nationally if Essex County Council carried out its threat of suspending firemen indefinitely. The all-day stoppage was timed to begin at 00.01 yesterday and end at the same time today. But, because watch patterns conflicted with the timing of the stoppage, the council refused to allow the men into stations for six hours before the start of the action and for nine hours after it officially ended. The council said temporary suspensions were imposed because firefighters were in breach of their contracts.

New Aids vaccine hope

An experimental Aids vaccine has successfully protected two chimpanzees against HIV infection, a team from the University of Pennsylvania has reported in *Nature Medicine. The results raise hopes that a human* vaccine based on the same principles and now in preliminary trials may prove successful. The virus was briefly detectable at low levels in the vaccinated chimps about six to eight weeks after infection, but then disappeared. This implies that the animals' immune system was able to fight off the disease. "We will have to wait to see whether this vaccine will become an HIV-1 vaccine" said team leader Dr David Weiner. "A great deal of additional work remains to be done before we can say that. But these results do give us confidence to go forward."

Car firms go by bike

Car manufacturers have given motorists some unexpected advice: cut pollution and congestion by leaving your car at home. Volvo has said that while there is still an important place for the car, "we all have to accept that there are times when it is not sensible to use a car. A third of journeys are shorter than a mile-and-a-half." It said that in the first mile of a journey a car emits 60 per cent more pollutants than when it has warmed up, and the petrol consumption is very heavy — the car does as few as six miles to the gallon. Next month Vauxhall is to begin a car-share scheme and *transport pool among almost 1,000 of its employees at its* headquarters at Luton, Bedfordshire. The company said: "We are trying to make our environment here at Luton better for everyone."

Judge splits Sikh family

A teenage Sikh girl caught in the middle of her parents' separation was granted her wish to remain with her mother in Scotland instead of returning to a strict Punjabi way of life with her father and younger brothers in Canada. But Sudesh Singh, 35, mother of Gurwinder, 14, last night spoke of her horror that her son Jothan, 10, should be sent to Canada. "Jothan doesn't want to go. He made that quite plain." She vowed to appeal against the decision by Lord Macfadyen at the Court of Session. Avtar Singh and his wife and three children arrived in Scotland last August for a family funeral. Mr Singh then returned to Ontario with Ranjit, 3, but his wife refused to go and remained in Scotland with the other two children. He brought the custody action, citing the Hague Convention on child abduction.

Floor-birth mother sues

A baby suffered brain damage after being delivered on the floor hours after a hospital sent his mother home to her lodgings, the High Court in London was told yesterday. Francesca Brock-Hollinshead, 22, of Cranleigh, Surrey, is claiming damages from Bromley Health Authority. Her counsel *told the court that staff at* Farnborough Hospital in Orpington knew that the child was in breech position and that his delivery would be "high risk". But they failed to carry out a Caesarean on the day the baby was due and sent the mother home, *telling her to return the next day* to be induced. Ambulance staff resuscitated baby Oscar after 25 minutes, but were too late to prevent brain damage *that* means he will require constant care all his life.
The authority denies negligence. The case continues.

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L79/10

BT trims national calls price by 10%

By Eric Reguly

BRITISH Telecom yesterday reduced the prices of national calls by 10 per cent and eliminated the price difference between national and regional calls. The changes, which will save customers about £90 million a year, are expected to trigger price reductions among rival operators.

BT said the latest cuts raised the total customer savings to £409 million since last August. Under a price reduction formula imposed by Oftel, the telecommunications regulator, BT must increase the total savings to £417 million by the end of July. The price cutting will continue next year.

The company admitted that mounting competition was also behind the latest move. BT is losing more than 50,000 customers a *month* to the cable-telephone companies, whose prices are generally 10 per cent to 20 per lower.

From May 29, the price of a national daytime call on BT's network will fall 10 per cent to to 7.91p a minute, including VAT. The price of a regional call — non-local calls under 35 miles — will decline by 3.8 per cent *to the same level. Prices* for evening and weekend calls are unchanged.

Since September, when BT launched a series of reductions on all types of call, the cost of a five-minute national call has come down from 49p to 40p, a saving of 18 per cent.

The cable companies said their national call prices were still cheaper that BT's. Nonetheless, they are expected to drop their prices to maintain *the differential.*

Secrets and Lies is Bafta's outstanding British film

By Alexandra Frean
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

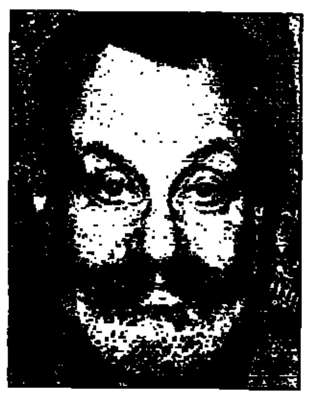
MIKE LEIGH'S moving and poignant comedy about family life, *Secrets and Lies*, took three honours at the British Academy Awards last night.

The English Patient, Anthony Minghella's £20 million epic wartime love story, also took three awards — including best film and best adapted screenplay for Minghella. The French actress Juliette Binoche repeated her Oscars success by taking the best supporting actress award.

But Mike Leigh's low-budget drama, which failed to capture a prize at last month's Oscars, took the Alexander Korda Award for the year's outstanding British film. Leigh won best original screenplay and Brenda Blethyn, best actress.

The Bafta best actor-award went to Australia's Geoffrey Rush; star of the film *Shine*.

The awards at the Royal Albert Hall in London were presented by Lenny Henry and attended by Bafta's patron, the Princess Royal. The jury honoured Britain's two most-viewed television programmes: ITV's *Coronation Street* took the Lew Grade Award for a significant popular programme; BBC's *EastEnders* was best drama series.



Leigh: film-maker wins honours in own country

The BBC2 drama *Our Friends in the North* was best drama serial, and won best actress for Gina McKee. Its writer, Peter Flannery, won the Dennis Potter award. Nigel Hawthorne was best television actor for *The Fragile Heart*. Other winners:

☐ David Lean award for direction, Joel Coen for the film *Fargo*.
☐ Best supporting actor (film), Paul Scofield (*The Crucible*).
☐ Best film not in English, *Ridicule*.
☐ Best short film, *Des Marjorettes dans L'Espace*.
☐ Best short animated film, *The Old Lady and The Pigeon*.
☐ Best factual series, *The House*.
☐ Best light entertainment programme, *Shooting Stars*.
☐ Best comedy, *Only Fools and Horses*.
☐ Hugh Wheldon award for best arts programme, *Leaving Home*.
☐ Best children's programme, *Shakespeare Shorts: Romeo and Juliet*.
☐ Flaherty documentary award, *Fermat's Last Theorem*.
☐ Best light entertainment performance, John Bird and John Fortune in *Rory Bremner, Who Else?*
☐ Best comedy performance, David Jason.
☐ Best news coverage, BBC *Newsnight's* BSE coverage.
☐ Best sports coverage, BBC1's Euro 96 coverage.
☐ Best talk show, *Mrs Merton's Christmas Show*.
☐ Richard Dimbleby award for most important personal contribution (factual TV), Robert Hughes.
☐ Best foreign TV programme, *Murder One*.
Fellowships: Woody Allen; Julie Christie.

Prince

Continued from page 1

tion, even vilification." He went on to suggest that this was because opponents of tradition felt threatened.

"It is as if tradition represented the enemy of man's lofty ambition: the primitive force which acts as an unwelcome reminder ... of the ultimate folly of believing that *the purpose* and meaning of life ... lie in creating a material form of Utopia, a world in which technology becomes a virtual reality god, the arbiter of virtual reality *ethics*, and *thus* the eventual murderer of the soul of mankind."

Tradition, the Prince said, was not a *man-made* element but a "God-given awareness" *of the natural* rhythms of life and nature.

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DPP to investigate drug clinic death of IRA bomb survivor

By Ian Murray
Medical Correspondent

A CORONER is to refer the case of a man who survived the Aldwych bus bomb but died after private treatment for heroin addiction to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, adjourned the inquest on Brendan Woolhead after two experts said he had died as a result of "grossly negligent" and "very dangerous" treatment at the Wellbeck Hospital in Marylebone, London.

Dr Knapman said the inquest evidence had developed differently to what he had expected and it would be submitted to the DPP or Crown Prosecution Service to consider whether charges should be laid. "We are approaching the possibility of criminal matters," he said.

The inquest was told that Mr Woolhead, 34, suffered serious head and pelvis injuries when the bomb went off last February, killing the IRA terrorist who was carrying it. Mr Woolhead, a long-term drug addict, left hospital after two weeks and went to convalesce at home in Swords, Co Dublin.

Last October he went to the Wellbeck Hospital for an "ultra-rapid opiate detoxification treatment" to wean him off heroin. The addict is given a general anaesthetic over six hours so they are unconscious during the worst period of withdrawal symptoms.

Thirty hours after the detoxification began Mr Woolhead went into a convulsion and his heart stopped on October 3 last year. The detoxification treatment was developed in Vienna in 1988 and is widely used in Austria, Germany and Holland.

The allegation of negligent treatment came from an expert in addiction behaviour called by Mr Woolhead's family. Griffith Edwards, of the Maudsley Hospital, London, said the Wellbeck Hospital had made "manifestly false" claims about the treatment to Mr Woolhead. Professor Edwards criticised claims that the treatment was "unique in its efficiency" and that the patient would suffer no withdrawal symptoms.

In his opinion, Mr Woolhead signed a "consent document" that did not amount to informed permission, so the treatment was an assault from a medical point of view. Claims that the treatment was "completely safe" were undoubtedly false, he said.

"My view is that this man died as a result of the grossly negligent treatment given by the Wellbeck Hospital," he said.

Robert Kerwin, another expert from the Maudsley, said he was certain Mr Woolhead died as a result of the "reckless" way the treatment had been administered. He said the recklessness included giving Mr Woolhead 15 different drugs and using an untested therapy not subject to ethical restraints or safety guidelines.

In his opinion, the treatment was dangerous and unethical. "It's like driving a car over a narrow bridge at great speed, not knowing what is on the other side." The treatment involved an obvious and serious risk to the patient who should have been advised of this before it was carried out, the professor said. "In my opinion, this man certainly died as a result of the treatment he received."

Gary Gerson, consultant anaesthetist at the Wellbeck, said he had not been told that Mr Woolhead had suffered severe head injuries recently. The inquest was told that Mr Woolhead had agreed with doctors that he could take a dose of heroin one last time before the treatment began. High levels of methadone, a heroin substitute, and morphine were found in his blood. Dr Gerson said he "didn't see it was possible" that Mr Woolhead had taken the doses inside the clinic.

Dr Knapman adjourned the case. The same jury will reconvene if there is no prosecution.

Judge says singer did have passionate and turbulent relationship with musician

Boy George wins action over homosexual affair

By Kathryn Knight

BOY GEORGE did have a homosexual affair with the rock musician Kirk Brandon, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

Mr Justice Douglas Brown said there was overwhelming evidence that the two men had enjoyed "a brief, passionate and turbulent physical homosexual affair" in the early 1980s. The eyes of the 35-year-old Culture Club lead singer filled with tears as the judge said he was an "impressive" witness.

Mr Brandon, 40, already bankrupt and unable to pay any part of the estimated £200,000 costs of his failed "malicious falsehood" action, remained unbowed.

He swore later to renew his claim that Boy George lied when he wrote of a "one hundred nights of love" homosexual relationship in his autobiography, *Take It Like A Man*, and expressed his feelings about the end of an affair in a song, *Unfinished Business*.

The judge told Mr Brandon that he was a decent and talented man but that he had not been truthful about his physical relationship with George (real name George O' Dowd).

Kirk Brandon with his wife and daughter yesterday

Mr Brandon, who has a Danish wife, Christina, and a daughter, Siff, argued his case without lawyers. He had claimed that Boy George's tale of gay love was fabricated and born out of a thwarted obsession. The allegations, he said, had wrecked his career.

The former Culture Club front man had told the court that he had met Mr Brandon in a London pub and after a few weeks began a sexual relationship when Mr Brandon asked if he could stay over after a night out. Mr Justice Brown said: "Mr Brandon said he knew Mr O'Dowd was a homosexual who was sexually interested in him and yet went straight into his bed without protest and without asking if there was alternative accommodation either, in another bed or settee or floor."

The judge added that it was extremely difficult to believe Mr Brandon's claim that Boy George had never made a pass at him during the next few months in which they had shared a bed several times.

The judge said it was not suggested in Boy George's book that after 1981 Mr Brandon, who went on to achieve musical success with the bands Theatre of Hate and Spear of Destiny, had behaved in anything other than a heterosexual way. While Mr O'Dowd had admitted that he had told lies in the past about his heroin addiction, he was an "impressive witness" whose evidence he accepted.

"Mr O'Dowd was clearly not malicious in stating that which he knew to be true ... The allegations of malice are quite hopeless and should never have been brought."

Outside court, as he hugged his wife and daughter, Mr Brandon said: "I will fight to clear my name in whatever court or country I see fit, England or the US," he said.

Surrounded by friends and supporters, Boy George said the court case had been "ridiculous". "Yesterday I said I loved him. I don't feel anything for him today. I certainly don't hate him ... He knew he was lying, knew everthing he said was untrue. He has caused himself a lot of hurt."

ANDRÉ CAMARA

Boy George, an "impressive" witness, emerging victorious from the High Court

Mormon bishop in sex cases is cleared

By Russell Jenkins

A MORMON bishop was yesterday cleared of 19 charges of sexually molesting women members of his congregation, but faces the possibility of another trial.

Peter Gibson, 72, showed no emotion as the jury delivered its verdicts at the end of a two-week trial at Liverpool Crown Court. He had denied allegations by six members of his congregation at Mill Bank Chapel, in the Stoneycroft area of Liverpool, and another young girl, spanning two decades.

They said that the bishop — the equivalent of a priest in the Church of England — took every opportunity to touch them sexually. Mr Gibson denied the allegations in court and during police interviews, claiming he was the victim of a conspiracy of liars.

The jury of seven women and five men could not come to a verdict on six outstanding charges after more than ten hours' deliberation. They told Judge Donald Hart that there was no prospect of their reaching a verdict on the charges, which related to four of the women. The judge allowed Mr Gibson bail until May 16, when a decision will be taken on whether to proceed with those charges.

Gay man 'stabbed lover in row over chicken marinade'

By Joanna Bale

A MAN was stabbed to death by his gay lover after criticising the amount of marinade needed for chicken as they prepared for a barbecue, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Steven Hawkes, who had lived with his partner Graham Hawkes for two years, stabbed him with a single blow in the chest, using a kitchen knife with an eight-inch blade, David Waters, for the prosecution, said.

They had earlier pledged their commitment to each other at the Brompton Oratory in west London. Mr Waters said: "It was not a formal ceremony, but they went there to commit themselves.

"Sometimes, ironically, people are very fond of each other and perhaps love each other, which gives rise to a single act which causes the death of the other, which gives rise to instant regret. This is one such case."

He said Steven Hawkes had "consistently maintained" the death was an accident. The two men had been rowing all day and when Graham Hawkes, 35, criticised his lover's culinary expertise it was the final straw, it was said.

Steven Hawkes, 36, who had changed his name to that of his partner after exchanging rings with him, told police: "I was preparing a chicken dish for a barbecue for the next day. Graham said that I was putting too much marinade on the chicken. I said 'Don't be silly'."

He claimed that he shrugged "like an Italian" and as he put his arms up in that gesture the knife entered his partner's body, Mr Waters said. The accused told police: "I didn't realise I had a knife in my hand. Graham then stepped back and there was lots of blood and he fell into the hallway. It was nothing. Nothing we said amounted to an argument."

A police investigation revealed that the pair had been rowing earlier in a local pub, had thrown their rings across the bar and stormed out separately, Mr Waters said.

Later a policeman who lived downstairs heard the men screaming at each other. This was followed by a loud crash and the victim saying: "Christ, you've done it now."

Mr Waters added that the track of the knife wound was downwards, which did not fit in with the defendant's story that he accidentally stabbed him when he moved his hand in the upwards movement of a shrug. The court was told that the knife penetrated a full eight inches to the hilt, through a rib bone and piercing the heart. The defendant had also claimed initially that his lover had accidentally fallen on the knife.

Mr Hawkes, of West Drayton, west London, denies murder on August 25 last year. The trial continues.

TV to show police tapes of abuse interviews

By Joanna Bale

POLICE were criticised yesterday for giving a television company videotaped interviews with children in an alleged abuse case. Diverse Productions is making three documentaries for Channel 4 about child protection and problems in obtaining evidence.

The Death of Childhood is to be screened in May and June and re-examines the Cleveland child sex abuse scandal. It asks whether children are protected any better ten years on.

Channel 4 said that it will not include tapes that might be used in court.

"We show a few seconds of the warm-up part of the interview, to give an idea of how a child is questioned," a spokesman said. Northumbria Police said: "We have released some film of interviews with youngsters but only after receiving the express permission of the parents or guardians in each case. None of the youngsters could possibly be identified from the material we released."

Tony Flynn, the leader of Newcastle upon Tyne City Council, expressed concern over police providing tape extracts from an investigation into alleged abuse at one of the authority's nurseries. The case against two nursery nurses collapsed in 1994 after the judge refused to allow videotaped interviews with children as evidence.

Macdonald clan chief sees red over Big Mac's lowland tartan

By A Staff Reporter

THE historic Macdonald tartan has been spurned by probably its most successful descendant.

The clan's bright red, green and navy tartan has been rejected in favour of the burgundy, green and navy of lowland rival the Clan Lindsay by staff at McDonald's, the burger chain. Workers at its British outlets will wear a new uniform featuring waistcoats and scarves in the Lindsay colours.

Last night High Chief Lord Godfrey Macdonald, the head of the Macdonald family, accused the burger giant of turning its back on its ancestor's proud history. He said the fast-food retailer had no respect for the family name it promoted around the world. Lord Macdonald, of Sleat, Skye, said: "Whether or not McDonald's is actually run by a bona fide member of the Macdonald clan today is not important. What is important is that they are held to be one of the world's most famous promoters of the Macdonald clan through association.

"Surely if they are going to dress their staff in tartan uniforms then they should dress them in the Macdonald tartan?"

However, he added: "In a way I am quite glad they have distanced themselves from the Clan Macdonalds by not choosing our tartan. I pity the Lindsays."

Last night a spokesman for McDonald's said the food chain regretted if it had upset any members of the Macdonald clan. He said they had been considering a uniform change for their waitressing and counter staff for some time and had recently commissioned a Scots designer to brighten up tunics. He said the Lindsay tartan had been chosen because it was a more commercially pleasing shade than the Macdonald tartan.

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Saturday in THE TIMES

Alan Franks meets Dame Edna, Les Patterson – and Barry Humphries

in the Magazine

Detective paid £60,000 for 'ugly' Rembrandt

By Paul Wilkinson

AN UNDERCOVER policeman was sold a stolen picture of a woman "so ugly that only her son would have painted it" without one of the vendors realising it was *Portrait of his Mother* by Rembrandt, a court was told yesterday.

The portrait, valued at £300,000, was completed in about 1629 and had been in the Earl of Pembroke's family for more than 300 years. It was stolen from the Great Ante Room in Wilton House, belonging to the Earl, in Salisbury, Wiltshire, on November 5, 1994, so that the noise of fireworks would drown the alarm.

The undercover officer, named only as James in court, paid £60,000 for the portrait. It was among valuable antiques and *objets d'art* recovered when police broke up a national trade in stolen treasures, Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court was told.

The men who negotiated selling the stolen goods had little regard for the quality of the Rembrandt. They referred to it as "The Granny" and "The Old Lady", and one was heard to observe it was so ugly that only her son would have painted it.

Mr Duddin and detail from the Rembrandt

The jury was told that all the pieces had been handled by David Duddin, 51, from Newcastle. Mr Duddin denies six counts of handling stolen goods, including three silver-gilt honey jars with spoons from Floors Castle, Kelso; and a walking stick made from the spear that killed Captain Cook, taken from a house in Coldstream.

William Lowe, QC, for the prosecution, said there was no suggestion that Mr Duddin was involved in any of the thefts, but the prosecution would prove that he had handled the stolen pieces. Mr Duddin and others were arrested after a series of meetings early last year with the undercover police officer, who posed as an expert adviser to blackmarket contacts in the antiques world.

James agreed to buy stolen silver for £5,500, a quantity of swords for £4,500 and paintings for a further £5,000. Police then returned the property to its owners.

The undercover officer was told £100,000 was wanted for the Rembrandt, but offered £60,000 plus a payment of £3,000 to Mr Duddin for his part. At a meeting in London he was allowed to inspect the work. A sale was agreed.

James, who gave evidence from behind a screen, said he was introduced to Mr Duddin by a man called Vincent, who was described as a financer of deals. They told Mr Duddin they were looking for antiques to sell on the American market. The officer said: "We were discussing a painting attributed to Rembrandt. I was aware that it was stolen. I said we would have to do some research and try to authenticate it before coming to some decision on price. Dave said he had been assured the painting was a Rembrandt and was worth a lot of money.

"He said the painting was now in London with somone else who had invested £75,000 in getting it that far. Dave said he had some other pieces we might be interested in. He asked if we would consider silver or paintings of English country scenes and sports. The trial continues.

PAUL BARKER

The youngest Tordoff at the reunion, Laura, 4, with Maurice Tordoff, 72

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Search for family tree brings world's branches together

By Paul Wilkinson

WHEN Lord Tordoff's family grew tired of people asking if their surname was Russian, they decided to trace their roots. They did not bargain on an invitation to a family reunion in a village hall in west Yorkshire at which 300 people were present.

There was a Buddhist monk from Singapore, an American clown, a novelist and a documentary film maker from Devon, but not a single Russian. Which was not surprising, as Tordoff is an old Yorkshire name dating back to the late 16th century. It is possibly a corruption of the Viking name Thiodwulf, meaning lone wolf.

Lord Tordoff, the former Liberal Democrat Chief Whip and now chairman of the *European Select Committee* in the Lords, travelled from his home in Somerset with his sister, Barbara, for what was billed as Tordoff Day.

He said: "The turnout has been spectacular. We have just spent all day talking to people and finding out more about our family. We have found our great aunt's granddaughter here, which fills in a missing part of our family tree. By coincidence, she is a friend of a friend of our daughter in New Zealand."

The idea for a reunion developed after Fraser Tordoff, a *Bradford solicitor*, contacted Ruth Keyworth, whose brother Courtney Tordoff is a senior BBC journalist, as they both independently researched their family backgrounds.

Fraser Tordoff, a warden at Holy Trinity Church in Queensbury, where the reunion was held at the weekend, has gone back as far as three brothers who in the late 1500s ran a smallholding in Bradford. "Most families come from that root," he said, "but there is also a theory we have links with Scotland and may have been related to Bonnie Prince Charlie. There is a place called Torduff on the Solway Firth."

The event was billed: "A *celebration of being* a Tordoff, being married to a Tordoff, of being descended from a Tordoff." Fraser Tordoff said: "When you talk of family histories, it sounds dry and boring, but it comes to life when you meet relatives who can trace ancestors."

Mrs Keyworth, 44, from Telford, Shropshire, said: "I think it's wonderful. People who have come have had a pleasant time, and perhaps discovered distant relatives. Maybe we'll have another one next year."

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Low-fat Mars Bar is light years away from chocolate

By Robin Young

Once bitten: a taster takes Flyte and finds it too sweet

BRITISH chocolate, already criticised by the European Union as a fraud upon the public, took another step towards degradation yesterday with the launch of two new "low-fat" chocolate bars by the confectionery firm Mars UK.

The move was condemned by chocolate purists as a further corruption of a product whose chocolate content is already so low that it had been suggested that it should be renamed "vegolate", to reflect the fact that much of its fat content derives not from cocoa butter but from vegetable oil.

The advertising for the new Mars products is pitched at weight-watching women, suggesting that some long awaited moment has finally come which will transform their lives. This was rejected by WeightWatchers and medical authorities, who pointed out that the sugar content is still extremely high — though unquantified on the wrappings — and that fat, even when reduced, is still fat.

In taste tests in the offices of *The Times*, it seemed that the Mars technologists had at least fulfilled their claim to have reduced the fat content of the Mars Bar without compromising its taste. With portions of bars sliced into similarly shaped chunks, no one could reliably distinguish the new Mars Light from the original.

The total proportion of fat in a Mars Light is 13 per cent, compared to 17.5 per cent in the standard product. The new bar is also smaller (but costs the same at 27p) so its fat content is about half that in the standard. It boasts "only 150 calories a bar", though that is still about a tenth of the daily recommended total for many people. A spokesman for WeightWatchers said: "The difference is largely cosmetic. No woman should think this is something she can eat regularly and hope to retain her figure."

The other new product, a bar called Flyte (30p for a 45gm twin-pack), is described as the country's first low-fat, mainstream chocolate bar. It has a whipped centre and "only half the fat of ordinary milk chocolate". Tasters in *The Times* yesterday complained that it was toothachingly sweet and had little or no taste of chocolate.

Most chocolate contains about 30 per cent fat by weight, and has a calorie count of about 500 per 100g (or 3½ oz). Chocolate with a high cocoa content is argued to be beneficial because it boosts serotonin and endorphin levels in the brain, producing a so-called "chocolate high". It also contains the stimulants theobromine and caffeine.

Mars is spending £8 million advertising Flyte nationwide and Mars Light for trials in the HTV and TSW television regions. A spokesman for the Chocolate Society, a fan club for chocolate with high cocoa content, said: "This is a sad day for Britain. These products are not healthy, they are not slimming, and they are not chocolate."

☐ A flavoured milk drink with 5 per cent alcohol has been criticised by Alcohol Concern as a lure to teenagers. Moo, which comes in strawberry and banana flavours, has been launched in Oxfordshire and could soon be sold nationwide. The makers, En-Toute-Caisse of Witney, insist it is aimed at the over-18s.

ANDRÉ CAMARA

Sandra Hurley yesterday. She wept during evidence

Doctor 'dismissed worry over late pregnancy as silly'

By Emma Wilkins

A WOMAN who gave birth to a Down's syndrome baby at the age of 35 had been told that she was silly to ask for a prenatal test, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

Sandra Hurley, now 42, from Aldershot, Hampshire, said that a military doctor dismissed her worries and refused to give her an amniocentesis test at a consultation in 1990. She gave birth to Matthew, now six, who needs constant care.

Mrs Hurley, who has two other children, said that Major Lawrence Roberts of Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, told her the test was expensive and carried a 1 per cent chance of miscarriage.

Mrs Hurley is suing the Ministry of Defence for medical negligence. Major Roberts said that it was hospital policy not to consider amniocentesis tests for women aged 35.

Mrs Hurley said: "I knew there was something wrong with the pregnancy — it was a woman's intuition. He was arrogant and laid back about the whole thing. It was a case of, 'You're being silly, your fears are unfounded'." Mrs Hurley, who wept as she gave evidence, said that she would have terminated the pregnancy if Down's syndrome had been detected. Major Roberts, who left the Army as a lieutenant-colonel, and is a consultant in obstetrics and gynaecology at Scunthorpe General Hospital, denied telling Mrs Hurley that she carried the same risks as a 26-year-old. He agreed that he would have advised her not to take the test. The case continues.

Matthew, 6, requires constant attention

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Save your arteries and stick to fruit

THE metabolism of a bar of chocolate — "low fat" or not — is rather more complex, but possibly less pernicious in its long-term effects, than is usually assumed.

Christine Williams, Professor of Human Nutrition at Reading University, said yesterday: "People who are trying to cut their fat intake often fail just because of an inordinate love of chocolate, and so this new low-fat bar may be helpful. In any case, a small amount of chocolate every day is unlikely to create health problems, but chocolate bars, low fat or otherwise, shouldn't be a significant part of the diet."

The fat content of a chocolate bar is derived from three sources, the cocoa bean, milk and cream, and vegetable oil. The cocoa fat is a saturated fat, but it seems that as it is composed of the fatty stearic acid it may not raise the blood-cholesterol level. When stearic acid is acted on by an enzyme in the body, it is partly converted to oleic acid, which is a beneficial fatty acid found in olive oil.

Regrettably, most of the dairy produce fatty acids found in a bar of chocolate are irremediably saturated. Only a small proportion are oleic acid. A bar of chocolate is also rich in sucrose, and therefore contains some fructose. Cardiologists are now regarding fructose with some suspicion as it seems that it may increase the level of triglyceride, another fat circulating in the blood, by stimulating its production in the liver. There is evidence that there is a relationship between the level of triglyceride in the blood after food, the length of time this triglyceride level is raised, and heart disease.

That link could result in the office worker who has a bar of chocolate and a glass of orange at the desk dealing a double whammy to his or her arteries. The orange juice, rich in fructose, could stimulate triglyceride production from the chocolate bar laden with saturated fats from the milk, and together raise the blood triglycerides and cholesterol to undesirable levels. It would be better to have the glass of orange by itself mid-morning.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

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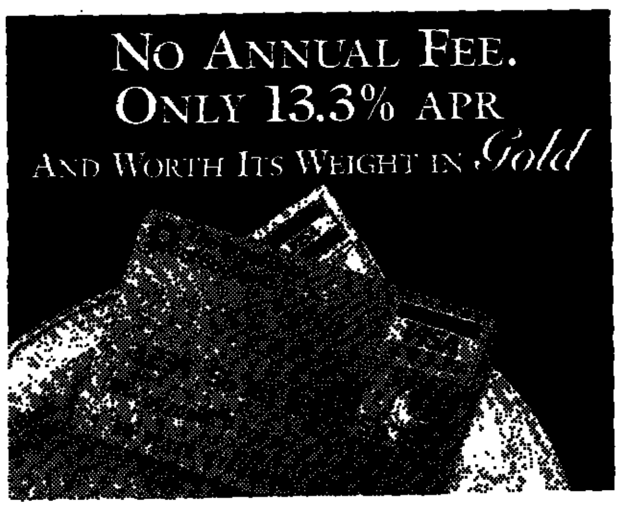

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Veterans offered £1,000 prize in Gulf War survey

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

SERVICEMEN and women are being encouraged to participate in an extensive official study into the cause of Gulf War illnesses with the offer of a £1,000 cash prize.

Ten thousand current and former military personnel are to be sent detailed questionnaires about their health as part of an investigation supervised by the Medical Research Council.

Those selected at random to be sent the questionnaire are divided between servicemen and women who took part in the 1991 war, non-Gulf War personnel and veterans of the peacekeeping operations in Bosnia.

However, because the selection of military personnel from the three categories is random, there is no guarantee that any of the 1,100 British veterans who are ill will receive the questionnaire. Their illnesses range from chronic fatigue to cancer.

The Ministry of Defence is providing £3 million for new research into the Gulf War illnesses. However, the health survey, drawn up by King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, is being funded by the United States Defence Department. Britain and America, which has thousands of sick Gulf War veterans, are closely co-ordinating their research programmes into the illnesses.

Those who receive the questionnaire will be told that when they have completed the form, their names will be entered in a draw to win £1,000. All the information will be treated in confidence.

Although military personnel will not be obliged to participate in the questionnaire, they will be advised that their answers could help to resolve one of the mysteries of the Gulf War.

The King's College researchers have formulated questions on lifestyle, drinking habits, exercise routines and health problems. There is also a detailed section on military experiences.

The researchers want to know whether the participants have been exposed to different hazardous materials, especially if it was during the Gulf War. They include smoke from oil wells, depleted uranium (contained in certain artillery shells), pesticides and dead animals.

The questionnaire also asks whether a Scud missile exploded in the air or on the ground "within one mile of you".

The health survey poses questions about a whole range of symptoms, many of which have affected Gulf War veterans claiming to be victims of war-related illnesses. They include chest pains, outbursts of anger, difficulties in breathing, fatigue, double vision, numbness, stomach cramp and forgetfulness.

The King's College researchers will compare the answers of those who served in the Gulf War with those who were not deployed in the Middle East to see if there is a significant statistical difference in health between the groups.

Two other research studies have been commissioned by the Medical Research Council. Professor Nicola Cherry at the School of Epidemiology and Health Sciences at Manchester University is conducting a study of ill health among Gulf veterans. She will identify possible exposure to toxic pesticides and other chemicals, and will investigate whether service in the Gulf is associated with increased mortality or risk of cancer.

Patricia Doyle of the Department of Epidemiology and Population Science at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine is studying the reproductive health of British Gulf War veterans and the health of their children.

Army clears drivers in Bosnia accidents

By Our Defence Correspondent

THE parents of four soldiers killed in accidents while patrolling in Saxon armoured vehicles in Bosnia in 1994 have succeeded in overturning official verdicts blaming "driver error". A fresh army investigation reversed the findings, concluding that "no blame could be attached to any individual".

Private Benjamin Hinton, 22, of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, was driving a Saxon when it went off a narrow mountain track near the Muslim enclave of Gorazde in September 1994. He was killed and four other soldiers were injured.

Three days later, Private Martin Dowdell, 19, driving a Saxon from the same regiment near Gorazde, was killed, along with Privates Christopher Turner, 18, and Phillip Armstrong, 21, when it overturned after he tried to turn the wheels out of a rutted track. The inquests recorded verdicts of accidental death, attaching no blame to the drivers. However, the army boards of inquiry blamed driver error, although neither Private Hinton nor Private Dowdell were found to be negligent.

The Ministry of Defence agreed to a new investigation after protests by the soldiers' families. Before it began, Geoffrey Armstrong, father of Pte Armstrong, said: "It was possibly the worst place to be stationed in Bosnia and to get these vehicles up these tracks, virtually on top of a mountain. I think somebody in the regiment and the MoD should have had the guts to admit that these Saxons were never meant to do this."

However, the fresh investigation maintained that the 11-ton four-wheeled Saxons were not inappropriate vehicles for the terrain and that they had helped to save lives in Bosnia.

JOHN McLELLAN

A driver making way for one of the elegant intruders. The village curate said: "They are great for calming traffic"

Nosey neighbours cause a flap

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture correspondent

INQUISITIVE neighbours are causing problems as they swan around a riverside village. They wander into private gardens, look into shopping baskets, and even peer into babies' prams.

Residents of Rowhedge, near Colchester, Essex, are split on how to deal with swans who have defied attempts to prevent them wandering from the River Colne. The Rev Roger Wilkinson, the village curate, joked: "The swans are more elegant than most of the inhabitants.

"The birds wander onto the road all the time, but they are great for calming traffic. I get out and swear at them in French so I do not offend my parishioners and it seems to work. You cannot control everything in nature. Sometimes you have to live with it, not against it."

Opponents say that the scavenging birds create a mess with their droppings and cause traffic jams in the High Street. Three weeks ago, the local parish council of East Donyland spent £1,000 putting up a 30ft fence along the Ferry Hard, a mudbank sloping down to the river, to try to keep the birds out of the village.

"The fence kept them at bay for a while," said Denis Horrigan, parish clerk for the past 43 years, "then five or six of the swans flew over. I do not know what we can do about that, unless we treat them as enemy aircraft and put up wires to stop them landing."

A spring tide last week helped the swans to further breach the village defences. Mr Horrigan said: "The river flooded over an open grassy area and some of the birds floated ashore. There are about 120 swans living on the river here. I reckon the village is split 50-50 between those who want more measures taken to keep the birds under control, and those who do not mind them wandering about. I get letters from both sides."

Sheila Smith, who runs the post office and store close to the river bank, said the problem was made worse by people feeding the swans and enticing them out of the river. She added: "I am not anti-swan but I think they should stay in the water. They are in danger on land. They have been attacked by dogs and run over by cars. I have known them put their heads in prams and frighten babies."

Customs officers seize £20m of heroin

By Stewart Tendler
Crime correspondent

CUSTOMS officers yesterday seized 250 kilograms of heroin at a warehouse in north Londo, making it the biggest find in Britain.

Investigators believe the heroin, worth up to £20 million in street sales, was destined for the British market. Two Turkish men were arrested.

The seizure will confirm fears that traffickers are trying to flood the country with cheap heroin. The price of a heroin fix is now as low as £10. The cargo uncovered yesterday is equal to a third of all the heroin seized last year by customs officers.

The drugs were found as a result of routine customs operations at the Channel ports on cargoes coming from Turkey via mainland Europe. Investigators followed a lorry to London and began a surveillance operation at the warehouse in Hornsey.

Yesterday morning two men arrived and began loading boxes of clothing onto a van. The watching customs officers moved in and found the drugs hidden inside the boxes.

Turkey has become the main source for heroin in Britain, accounting for most of the seizures. The drug is processed in Turkey and then moved west through the Balkans, often on long-distance lorry routes.

In a separate find yesterday, customs officers found 50 kilograms of cocaine hidden in a consignment of wood from Peru unloaded at Felixstowe, Suffolk. Four Britons and a Peruvian were arrested.

'Selfish' nest raider had 129 rare eggs

By Russell Jenkins

AN ILLEGAL hoard of rare eggs, including those of the golden eagle and red kite, was found at a man's home after he was suspected of raiding a nest at a Royal Society for the Protection of Birds reserve. Yesterday Alan Barrow, 34, was fined £2,500 by Bury magistrates when he admitted charges under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

The RSPB became concerned last June when an egg disappeared from the nest of a roseate tern at its reserve on Anglesey. The British population of the bird has declined by more than 80 per cent since 1969 to fewer than 70 pairs, with a handful on Anglesey.

Barrow, of Ainsworth, Greater Manchester, and another man, Brian Mortimer, had sailed in an inflatable dinghy to protected breeding grounds on the island of Ynys Feirig, off Rhosneigr, North Wales. An RSPB warden noticed the egg was missing and police questioned the men when they returned to the main shore. Days later police and RSPB inspectors raided Barrow's home, where they discovered 129 eggs. They included those of the golden eagle, red kite, peregrine falcon, marsh harrier, bearded tit and avocet.

Many of the species are listed by the RSPB as "red priority" — high conservation concern. Roger Woods, for the prosecution, told the magistrates that they could fine Barrow more than £200,000. Barrow, who is unemployed, denied having a particular interest in collecting eggs and said that he played a minor role compared with Mortimer, 35, of Bury. Mortimer, who was not in court as he is in prison for another matter, has admitted nine summonses involving eggs. They include stealing the roseate tern's egg, a golden eagle's egg on the Isle of Skye and a hen harrier's egg from the Trough of Bowland, Lancashire.

Mortimer, who had a bogus RSPB card, had been suspected of being an illegal egg collector for some time. Mr Woods said: "The obsessive collection of wild birds' eggs is a very selfish, evil and pernicious activity."

"Save water - use rainwater in your garden."

DR. ALAN KNIGHT
B&Q Environment
Policy Controller

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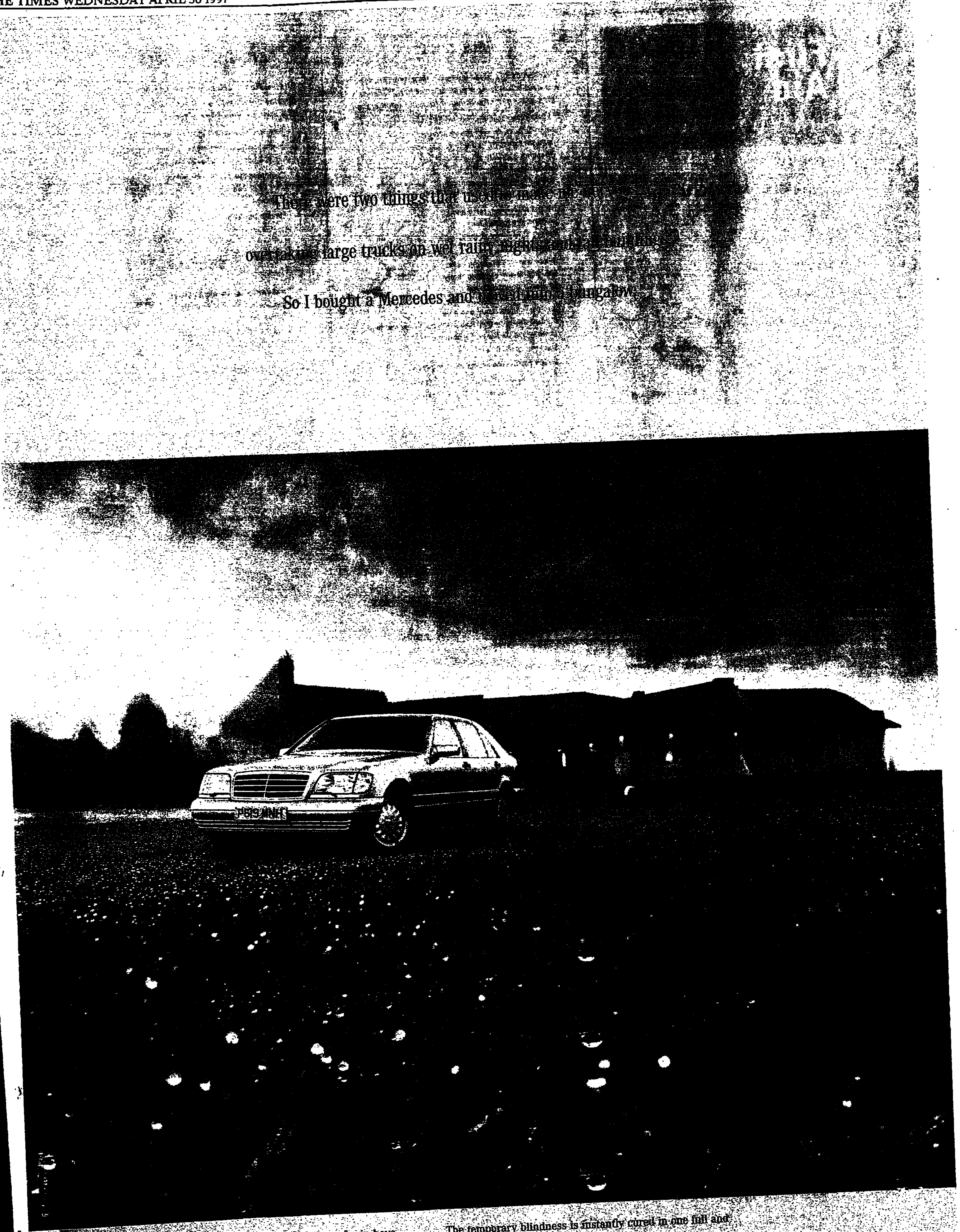
There were two things that used to make me [illegible]
overtaking large trucks on wet rainy nights and [illegible].
So I bought a Mercedes and moved into a bungalow.
P819 MNH

For two water-tortured hours, cold steel-like bullets of rain have been bombarding the dimly lit and near-deserted streets.

The road, awash with nature's debris, resembles a full-flowing river. Suddenly, you see the crimson candy coloured tail lights of a lorry.

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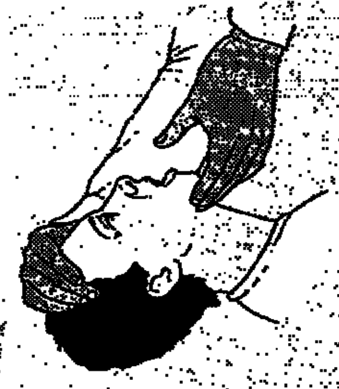
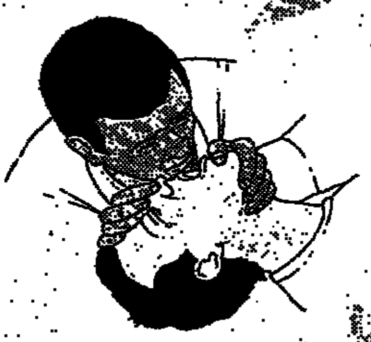
Prepared by St. John Ambulance

ABC OF RESUSCITATION (ADULTS)



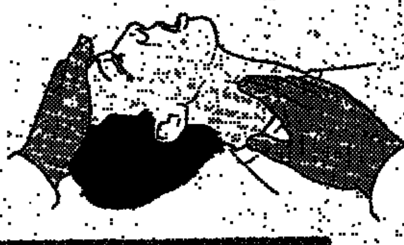
A-OPEN THE AIRWAY

1. Remove obvious debris from the casualty's mouth.
2. Tilt the casualty's head back and lift his chin upwards.



B-BREATHING

Checking if the casualty's is breathing by looking, listening and feeling for his breath for 5 seconds.



C-CIRCULATION

Check the pulse in the casualty's neck for 5 seconds.

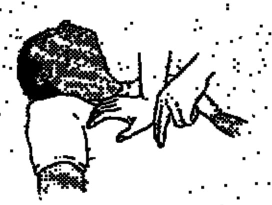
Not breathing, pulse present.

Start artificial ventilation

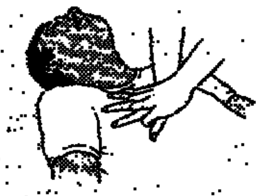
1. Pinch the casualty's nose firmly.
2. Take a deep breath and seal your lips around his lips.
3. Blow slowly into his mouth watching the chest rise. Let his chest fall completely. Give breaths at a rate of about 10 per minute.
4. If you must leave the casualty to go and get help, give 10 breathes first, and then return quickly, re-check ***ABC of Resuscitation*** and continue as appropriate.
5. Check for pulse after every 10 breaths.

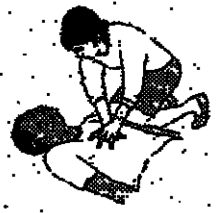
Not breathing, no pulse.

1. Dial 999 for medical help or send someone to do it for you.
2. Re-check ***ABC of Resuscitation***, and if necessary, give two breaths and start compression.
3. Place heel of hand 2 fingers breadth above ribcage/breastbone junction.



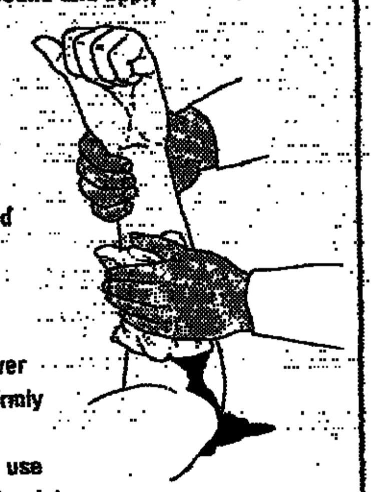
4. Place other hand on top and inter-lock fingers.
5. Keeping arms straight, press down 4-5cm (1½"-2") 15 times.
6. Repeat cycle (2 breaths to 15 compressions) until medical help takes over.
7. If condition improves, confirm pulse and continue with artificial ventilation. Check for pulse after every 10 breaths.





BLEEDING

Large wounds... *wear gloves if available; if not, ensure you have no cuts or grazes on your hands that may come into contact with blood from the open wound...*



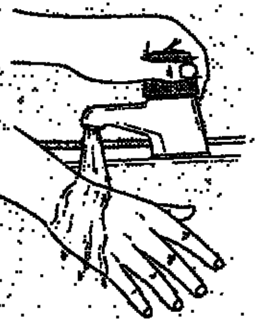
1. Ensure the wound is free from broken glass or other foreign objects. Expose the wound and apply pressure directly to the bleeding part with a pad or your fingers. If the wound is gaping, press the edges together.
2. At the same time, raise and support the injured limb taking care if you suspect a broken bone.
3. Place a sterile dressing over the wound and bandage firmly (if sterile dressing is not available - improvise - i.e. use a folded handkerchief and a tie).
   If blood seeps through the dressing, firmly bandage another pad ***on top*** of the original.
4. Send for medical help.
5. ***Do not remove dressings once in place.***

Small Wounds: Wash with water and if necessary apply small dressing.

BURNS AND SCALDS

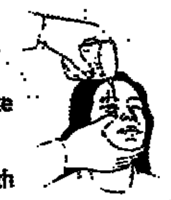
Treat burns and scalds in exactly the same way:

1. Place the burned area in cold water, preferably running, for at least 10 minutes; longer if the pain persists.
2. Remove any watch, jewellry, tight clothing. ***Do not*** remove clothing that is stuck to the skin.



3. Cover the area with a clean plastic food bag, cling film or other non-fluffy material, until seen by a doctor or nurse.
4. ***Never apply fats, ointments or sticking plasters.***
5. ***Do not pop blisters.***
6. Burns with blisters larger than the size of the casualty's hand need medical help. All deep burns of any size must receive hospital attention.

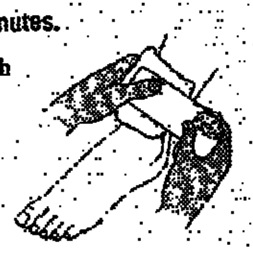
EYE-FOREIGN BODIES



1. *Ask the casualty to sit down facing the* light and lean backwards.
2. Using your thumb and forefinger, separate the eyelids.
3. If you see a foreign body, wash it out with sterile water (tap water will do if sterile water is not available).
4. If this does not remove the object or if the object is embedded, cover with an eye pad.
5. Call for medical help.

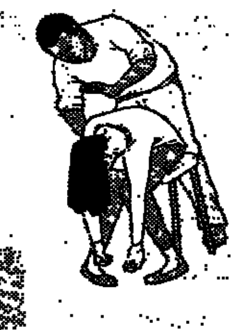
STRAINS AND SPRAINS

Strains *are caused by over stretching of muscles.*
Sprains *are caused when the ligaments and tissues of a joint are wrenched or torn.*

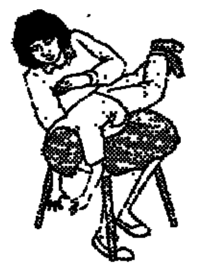


1. Rest the injured limb in the most comfortable position.
2. Place a wrapped ice pack, or cold compress on to the injured part for at least 20 minutes.
3. Compress the injured part with a thick pad of cotton wool and bandage.
4. Elevate the limb.

CHOKING

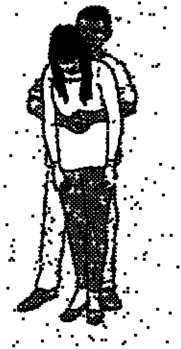


1. Encourage the casualty to cough.
2. Open the mouth and remove any obvious debris.
3. Bend the casualty forward and slap firmly between the shoulder blades up to 5 times.
4. Check the mouth remove any visible obstruction. Repeat backslaps if necessary.

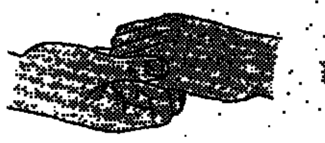


5. For a baby, place him along your forearm, or for a young child, place him across your knees with head lower than the stomach and carry out backslaps as described above.

*If backslaps do not work, try **abdominal thrusts**.*



1. Stand behind casualty, put arms around the waist and clasp your hands together (one palm up and one palm down).



2. Give a sharp pull diagonally upwards. Repeat up to 5 times.
3. If this does not work, do not give up, call an ambulance and the alternate backslaps with 5 abdominal thrusts.

Never ***give abdominal thrusts to a baby or young child.***
If the casualty becomes unconscious, be prepared to follow the ***ABC of Resuscitation.***

BITES AND STINGS

1. Remove the sting with a pair of tweezers then apply a cold compress.
2. Seek medical help if breathing becomes difficult or pain and swelling persists.
3. If casualty becomes unconscious, be prepared to follow the ***ABC of Resuscitation*** and call for medical help.
4. Bites that cause slight bleeding should be washed with water for 5 minutes then medical help should be sought.
5. Bites that cause severe bleeding must be treated as in section titled ***Bleeding*** then medical help should be sought.
6. Dog bites should be reported to the police.

KEEP THIS PAGE HANDY.

THERE ARE 50,000 FEWER NURSES THAN IN 1990.

How can this government justify the loss of so many nurses? Are we suddenly getting less ill? Sustaining less injuries? Government underfunding has led to huge staff shortages in the NHS.

This year, only 9,000 nurses will qualify, compared to 37,000 in 1983.

Since 1990, 43,000 NHS hospital beds have been lost.

No wonder so many people are waiting over a year and a half for treatment.

We can't allow this government to run our health service into the ground. If the NHS has ever come to your rescue, make sure you return the favour tomorrow.

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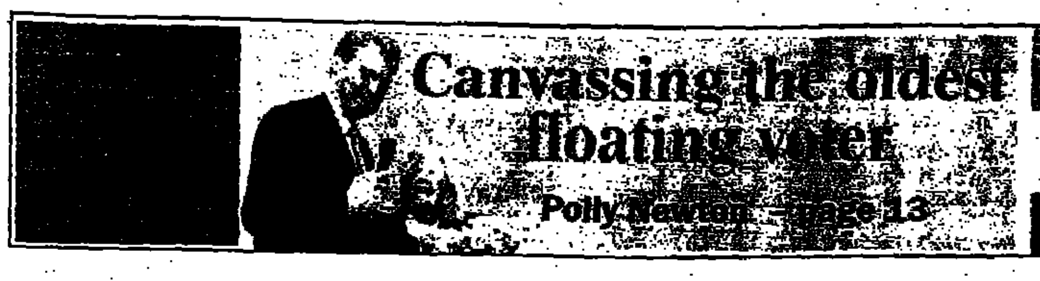
ELECTION 97


Canvassing the oldest floating voter
Polly Newton — page 13

The loneliest voters in Britain

The hand-over of power

Tony's friends plan MOB rule

Labour's inner circle reflects the Clinton style, report **Carol Midgley** and **Dominic Kennedy**

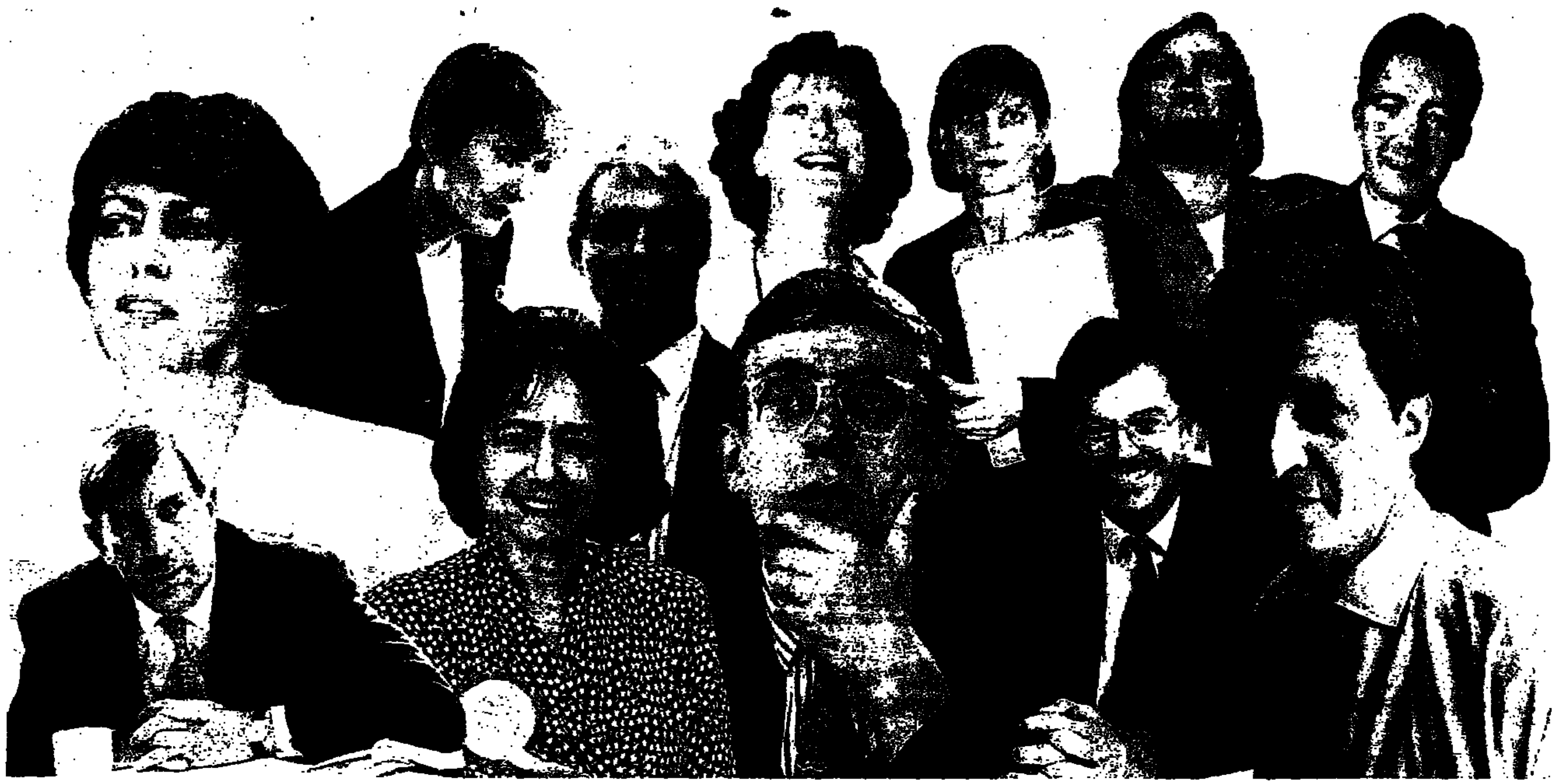
WHEN Bill Clinton first ran for the White House in 1992 he gathered around him a coterie of close associates whom he had collected since childhood. This inner circle soon became known as the Friends of Bill, or FOB, a group mirrored by the MOB, or Mates of Blair.

The FOB were an eclectic group of school friends, fellow Rhodes scholars and students at Georgetown and Yale, Arkansas lawyers, policymakers and others. They became the most sought after guests at Washington parties and were in many cases appointed to some of the highest offices in the land. Others the President turned to for informal advice.

Many have disappeared during the scandal-ridden years of the Clinton presidency. Vincent Foster, the former deputy White House counsel, died in mysterious circumstances; Webster Hubbell, the former Associate Attorney General was jailed over the Whitewater land affair; Robert Reich, the former Labour Secretary, and George Stephanopoulos, once the devoted political adviser, have resigned to pursue separate careers. Only Bruce Lindsey, a White House counsel said to know every Clinton secret, remains as the closest aide to the President.

"Nobody collects friends like Bill Clinton," *The Wall Street Journal* remarked recently. "And nobody puts them to better use".

The MOB consists of Mr Blair's former college friends, flatmates, relatives and colleagues. Over the past three years since he became leader Mr Blair has put up a protective wall to ensure that only his closest friends and advisers have access to the inner sanctum. Aside from Cherie, his wife, the people closest to the Islington throne are:



Tony Blair's inner circle of friends and advisers, otherwise known as the Mates of Blair. From left: Lord Irvine, Patricia Hewitt, Tessa Jowell, Margaret Hodge, Alistair Darling, Baroness Hollis of Heigham. Jack Straw, Anji Hunter, Stephen Byers, Mo Mowlam. Alastair Campbell. Peter Mandelson

☐ **Anji Hunter**, 42, a personal friend of Mr Blair's for more than 25 years. They met as teenagers in Scotland, where they both went to school, through a mutual friend. Their friendship grew at Oxford where Ms Hunter attended the Oxford and County Secretarial College but there was never any romance. Officially she is the manager of Blair's private office and keeper of his diary, but has been called Blair's equivalent of Marcia Williams, Harold Wilson's famous personal political secretary. She is known for her ability to act both as Miss Nasty and Miss Nice, delivering Mr Blair's scoldings for him but also soothing the egos of those he has upset.

☐ **Alastair Campbell/Fiona Millar.** Long-term partners and right-hand man and woman to the Blairs. Mr Campbell, 40, genial but tough press secretary to Mr Blair is his master's devoted rottweiler attempting to scare off any negative stories about the Labour leader.

In a Blair government, the former political editor of the *Daily Mirror* would be more of a political figure than press secretaries of late, in the mould of Bernard Ingham rather than his successors.

His partner, political journalist Fiona Campbell, 38, is close confidante, secretary, organiser and wardrobe assistant to Cherie. Both couples have three children and live in Islington.

☐ **Peter Mandelson.** Former MP for Hartlepool and arch spin doctor for new Labour. Variously described as the "evil genius", "Prince of Darkness" and "master of flattery" and loathed by some Tory and Labour MPs. Entrusted to run the Labour campaign from Millbank where he is said to have created a ruthlessly efficient machine. Has genuine Labour roots and devised the red rose symbol. Mr Mandelson is completely trusted by Mr Blair, which some regard as the Labour leader's blind spot.

☐ **Lord Irvine**, who has been part of the campaign team in Millbank, is expected to become Lord Chancellor. He introduced Mr Blair to Cherie when they both became pupils at his chambers in the 1970s. His wife Alison was formerly married to Donald Dewar, Labour's Chief Whip. Lord Irvine speaks daily to Mr Blair and has been an important backroom player for three Labour leaders, advising Neil Kinnock on how to tackle the Militant Tendency and supporting John Smith, a friend from the same debating circle at Glasgow University

☐ **Mo Mowlam**, 47, MP for Redcar, Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary and a member of the so-called "North East mafia" which includes Tony Blair and Peter Mandelson. Ms Mowlam, who married City banker Jon Norton two years ago, benefits from being one of the most likeable MPs in Westminster. She is very close to Mr Blair.

☐ **Margaret Hodge**, 52, a Labour MP since 1994, previously led Islington Council for ten years during which it failed to investigate allegations against social workers of child abuse, pimping and pornography. She dismissed the reports as gutter journalism.

☐ **Tessa Jowell**, 49, has been MP for Dulwich since 1992. Her husband David Mills, a lawyer and fellow former Camden councillor, is brother-in-law of Barbara Mills, director of public prosecutions.

☐ **Jack Straw**, 50, MP for Blackburn, is a former president of the National Union of Students, a barrister and former Islington councillor. He was elected to the shadow cabinet in 1987 and has been shadow home secretary since 1994. He has taken the party a long way towards the authoritarian Right on law and order.

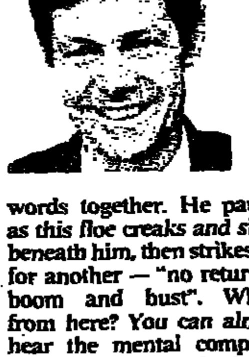
☐ **Alistair Darling**, MP for Edinburgh Central since 1987, is Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury and a memebr of Labour's Economic Commission. One of the few true Blairites in the Scottish Labour Party.

☐ **Stephen Byers**, 44, Labour MP for Wallsend since 1993, was the employment spokesman who told journalists during the last Trades Union Congress in Blackpool that the party might sever its links with the unions.

☐ **Baroness Hollis of Heigham**, 55, Labour spokeswoman for social security. She led the successful Lords revolt to secure a share of pensions for ex-wives, a policy which the Government was forced to adopt.

☐ **Patricia Hewitt**, was Neil Kinnock's press officer. She helped to run his 1992 election campaign but has survived to be chosen as candidate for Leicester West. Director of research with Andersen Consulting since 1994 on a salary exceeding £100,000, she has become a leading writer on gender issues.

Blair the evangelist blesses faithful come to bear witness



Matthew Parris, on tour with the Labour leader, finds that if the style of his speech has changed since the campaign started, the content has not

RED-faced air traffic controllers reported a near miss at Battersea heliport yesterday. Tony Blair's helicopter took off within minutes of John Major's and the two men narrowly avoided bumping into each other on the tarmac. Only last-minute evasive action by officials averted disaster.

Mr Blair was already some way into his itinerary. His press conference at Millbank Tower had started a day which came close to crossing the line between a political tour and an evangelist's rally. At Millbank, after a warm-up video featuring moving moments from his own speeches — a sort of Best of Blair '97 album — he strode to the podium with a swagger, and in a suit of which Gomez in *The Addams Family* would have been proud. This, said Gordon Brown, was "Trust Tuesday". To hear a man of Mr Brown's calibre reduced to lines like that is humbling.

There is no doubt that Mr Blair has relaxed since I watched him at the press conference opening his campaign a month ago. "The buck stops with me!" he cried, recklessly, a hundred journalists filing the remark away for future reference. But if the style of speech has changed, the content has not. The Labour leader proceeds like a man traversing a dangerous sea channel by stepping from ice-floe to ice-floe and zig-zagging fast, lest any floe fail to bear the weight placed upon it.

His ice-floes are the exhausted platitudes which are now the currency of his argument. "The talents and abilities of all our people" — the phrase has become so much a habit with him that he is beginning to run the words together. He pauses as this floe creaks and sinks beneath him, then strikes out for another — "no return to boom and bust". Where from here? You can almost hear the mental computer whirr as a hundred approved soundbites are tested in a micro-second. "No going back to the past!" — the ice groans and he lurches on: "Smaller class sizes for five / six / seven-year-olds." Thus, and safely, did Mr Blair reach the other side.

How will it be next Monday when the new Prime Minister meets (say) the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury?

"Can I seek your view on a half-point increase in interest rates, Prime Minister?"

"Opportunity for the many and not the few!"

"I beg your pardon, Prime Minister?"

"An end to the divisive policies of the last 18 years. From twelfth to eighteenth in the world prosperity league. No going back to the past!"

Tony Blair self-confident and relaxed among friends and supporters in Bristol yesterday

From Battersea, Mr Blair's helicopter proceeded at 130 knots to Gloucester. "As you will recall," said a spin doctor, microphone in hand, doubling as courier in our coach. "Tony went to Gloucester at the start of the campaign and met people who had switched from Tory to Labour. Today he'll be meeting more switchers and their families." We reached the civil service sports ground.

"There's your paddock," said a Labour minder of the Mormon tendency in charge of the press, to me. I escaped from my paddock. Mr Blair arrived. Everyone cheered. The sun came out. An excited vicar, in dog collar, stood sentry duty as flags in Labour's new episcopal purple colours were waved and a jazz band played *Ain't Misbehaving*.

The evangelist shook hands with a ten-year-old "who joined today". She appeared quite overcome. Then, like a sinner who had repented and come to tell the Good News, the former Tory MP Alan Howarth gave witness and asked Mr Blair to meet another former Tory candidate, called Gareth, in a rainbow rosette. They shook hands and everyone cheered. Mr Blair plunged around the crowd, shaking hands and signing broken legs. Mr Blair spoke. It was the same speech. "Our young people are the future"; "Education for the many and not the few."

The leading article in *The Times* yesterday spoke of "a tower of dreams". To watch Mr Blair, and the faces of his wellwishers yesterday, was to appreciate the percipience of that phrase.

He believes in himself, almost.

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We envy the British economy, says top German industrialist

Tory reforms have won a ringing endorsement from a man who wants them at the heart of Europe. **Roger Boyes** reports

GERMANY'S top industrialist yesterday extravagantly praised Britain's economic record, held up the country as a model for Germany and sympathised with John Major's refusal to sign the Social Chapter.

Hans-Olaf Henkel, who heads the German Confederation of Industry, strayed into the British election campaign with his comments but his chief target was the German political class. Like President Roman Herzog — who made a blistering attack on the Bonn élite at the weekend — Herr Henkel believes German politicians are reforming too sluggishly and need lessons from abroad.

In an interview for *The Times*, the industrialist said that the British would be right to celebrate Margaret Thatcher as the true winner of the election since her economic views now dominated political thinking. "Both of the leading British parties are basically following an economic course which in this country is only followed, and preached by, a party that commands barely 5 per cent of the voters," said Herr Henkel, referring to the Free Democrats, the very junior partner in the German Government.

The result, he says, was that Britain was booming and was "already emerging as a real model for Europe". Germans should take heed. "How is it that foreigners have invested ten times as much in Britain since 1981 as in the German market, which is double the size? How is it that in the last four years more than 600,000 new jobs were created in Britain while our unemployment rose by an even greater number?"

Other European countries were in a logjam, unable to move forward quickly. "For them the traffic lights are on amber, but for Britain the economy is coasting through on a wave of green lights — unemployment is sinking from month to month, net income is rising, public borrowing is down."

Herr Henkel, 56, a former IBM executive, said: "Either we continue on the current course at this speed, in which case we will have to take the medicine in the next two years or so; or we find the right kind of consensus and reform in time as the Swedes and the Dutch have managed to do. I work from morning to night in order to achieve the second outcome but in order to achieve it I have to point out the dangers of the first."

That meant, he said, taking Britain seriously. He had invited Tony Blair to the annual conference of his federation as a kind of teaching aid for German politicians. "I wanted the German public to see that a Labour leader can give a speech which I had heard, in terms of economic focus, from only a very few members of our government coalition." However, he thought that Labour's emphasis on signing the Social Chapter was misplaced: "Personally I would subscribe to the opinion of Mr Major. If it is true that unemployment is the real issue in Europe, and not the working poor, then heads of government should turn to the United Kingdom and ask: what can you teach us? That is why I firmly believe the United Kingdom should be part of Europe."

Herr Henkel, most German observers seem to agree, irritates Chancellor Kohl and the government with his persistent pleading for rapid change. The Kohl team thinks it is going as fast as it can without destroying social consensus. "Last year saw more changes than in the previous ten, but it still not enough," said the industrialist.

The time had come to shake up not only the running of the economy, but also the complex electoral system, moving towards the British model of first past the post.

Some of Herr Henkel's initiatives — restricting sick pay and cutting taxes — have been taken up by the government. President Herzog's "time for a change" weekend speech owed much to Herr Henkel's personal influence. But the British paradox — popular discontent with the Conservative Party despite a thriving economy — was something that had to be faced by German politicians.

"Politicians have to decide: are they going to make a dent in history by celebrating record tenures in office — or by making society more competitive?" Britain, he said, could learn a few things from Germany, above all how to use work-training schemes to reduce youth unemployment. But, he concluded, "the Anglo Saxon model will certainly be the model of the next few decades ... so, lucky Great Britain."

Straying into the British election: Hans-Olaf Henkel

Goldsmith says party will fight on beyond poll

The Tories are a lost cause says Sir James Goldsmith as he prepares for the role of Labour's European watchdog, writes **Ben Macintyre**

WHILE other single-issue groups may wither away after Thursday, the Referendum Party is a hardy perennial that will not die until its aim of forcing a referendum on Europe is achieved, Sir James Goldsmith declared yesterday at the party's first and last press conference of the campaign.

"There is a huge organisation out there," Sir James, the Referendum Party's leader, said, adding that membership figures had now climbed to 230,000. "I believe that we need to continue as a movement. We will be a conduit for mobilisation. Those who are with us are very committed and will fight for the right to determine whether we remain a nation or become a province of Europe."

The decision taken yesterday by David Crabtree, Referendum Party candidate for Pudsey, to stand down in favour of his Conservative Eurosceptic rival was "regrettable" and "wrong", Sir James said. But he pointed out that Mr Crabtree's name would remain on the ballot paper, giving voters the "opportunity to endorse our campaign".

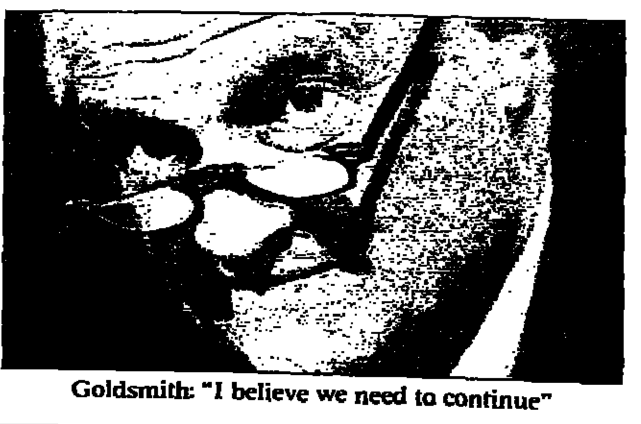
Sir James denied that his party's efforts had critically weakened Conservative election chances. "The Tories have committed suicide . . . There is no point in voting for the Tories. They're gone," he insisted, adding that a large turnout for the Referendum Party would "demonstrate that it is the greatest protest movement since the war".

"The only way of controlling the Blair government and ensuring that they do not give in to Brussels is to have a strong Referendum Party," he said. The millionaire, who is standing against Conservative David Mellor in Putney, flatly declined to say what level of nationwide support he would consider a success, and instead emphasised that the first part of the party's platform, bringing the debate on Europe into the open, had already been achieved.

Most opinion polls predict that the Referendum Party, fielding 547 candidates, will not win a single seat, although the party yesterday cited a Labour newsletter from Gosport showing its candidate ranked second according to doorstep canvass returns with a projected 23 per cent, 13 per cent behind Labour.

With or without a presence in Parliament, Sir James plainly envisages a long-term role from himself as a watchdog of the future government, backed by an organisation that will continue to lobby until a referendum on Europe is called.

"We will not, in the future, allow lies to be told. We will be a channel for mobilisation against any new betrayal," Sir James said.



Goldsmith: "I believe we need to continue"

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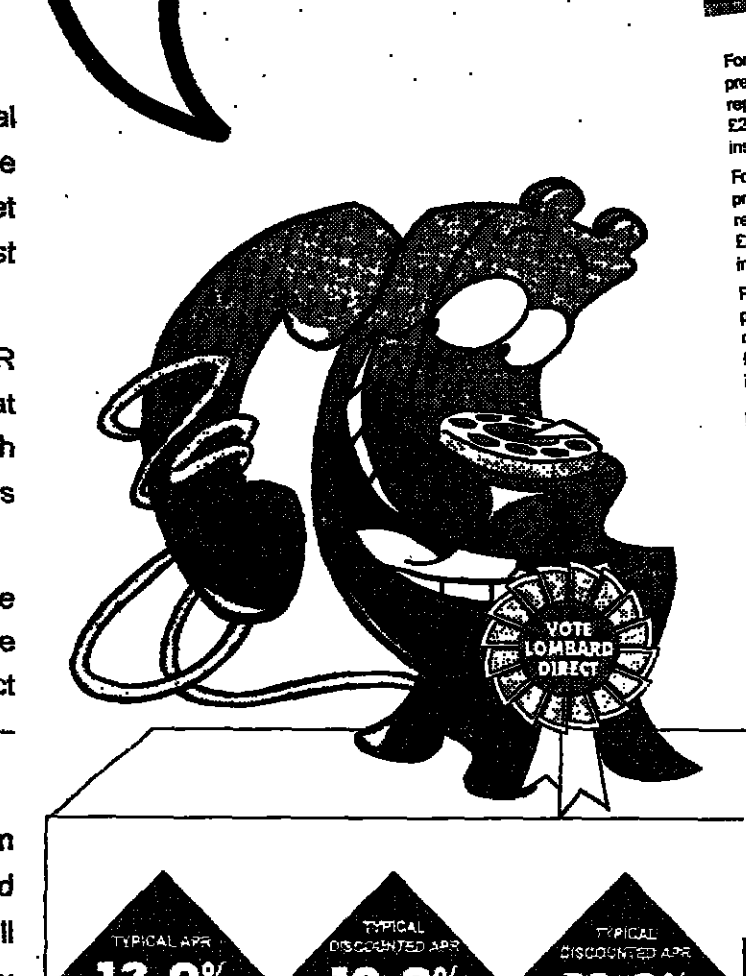

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Alan Hamilton finds that Britain's most remote electorate has little appetite for politics

Islanders are happy to keep campaign at bay

IT SEEMS like a good idea to track down the remotest voter in Britain, the one who will have to travel furthest to exercise his democratic right at a polling station.

The map and the Western Isles electoral register point to Husinish, a huddle of three crofts on the western seaboard of Harris cowering against the onslaught of Atlantic weather.

To get there from the nearest ballot box at Tarbert is a 17-mile drive along a single-track road that twists and heaves among the dun-brown barren landscape. To the left the sea shimmers in an intense clarity of northern light. Every three minutes, the weather changes from dazzling sun to leaden downpour. It would be sublime were it not for the abandoned cars, cannibalised and rusting at every bend.

The road ends by a silver beach. I walk among wild-haired sheep to the furthest house, tripping an alarm of barking collies, and knock on the door which is opened a crack by an elderly lady. She eyes me suspiciously. I state my business, beg two minutes' talk, and suggest a photograph.

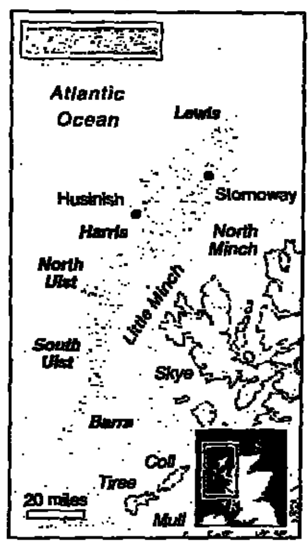
SNP's Anne Lorne Gillies: willing to sing for votes

"Och no," says she in her soft, precise, Hebridean way. "We are far too busy today. We are expecting visitors." The door is closed. I suspect her visitors are due a fortnight on Thursday, but I have made a serious tactical error in failing to change down from city overdrive to island bottom gear. People with time do not respond to the full-frontal approach.

Lesson learnt, I have better luck next door with Donald McKinnon, who is happy to blether with a visitor from another planet. We discuss lambing, and the lateness of his daffodils, and how good the television reception is now that it is beamed from North Uist. After half an hour, we edge towards the matter in hand. "I will certainly be voting on Thursday, but I have not bothered going to any of the candidates' public meetings in Tarbert. It's far too far to go to hear the same old guff." Only one candidate has so far made the trek to knock on Donald's door, the Tory Jamie McGrigor. Donald does not disclose his voting intentions, but he does not look much like a Conservative to me.

Tracking down McGrigor, an affable Old Etonian sheep farmer from the Argyllshire mainland, takes all of two days. His peeling, down-at-heel campaign headquarters on the quayside at Stornoway, the island capital, are permanently locked and unmanned. I begin to suspect him of lying low after providing this dour town, where the Sabbath is sacrosanct, with its one tiny nugget of campaign sleaze. A Scottish Sunday newspaper claimed last week that McGrigor's ex-wife had once appeared in a French porn film.

McGrigor dismisses the story. He is far more concerned about the difficulty and expense of campaigning in a constituency of only 22,000 voters, the smallest electorate in Britain but scattered down an archipelago 130 miles long.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Husinish
Harris
North Minch
North Uist
Little Minch
South Uist
Skye
Barra
Coll
Tiree
Mull
20 miles

Voter Donald McKinnon: will not travel 17 miles to "hear the same old guff"

I decide to take lessons in Hebridean canvassing from the master, the Labour candidate and sitting tenant Calum Macdonald. Our meeting is delayed a day because a catalogue of bad weather, cancelled flights and missed connections have stranded him on Barra and me on Lewis. He eventually arrives and we drive to a croft at Sheshader, where Calum McLeod is feeding his sheep. The two Calums talk amiably of crofting. We are all then totally absorbed by a strange catamaran sailing down the Minch, and McLeod fetches his binoculars. The nearest the whole encounter ever gets to arguments is whether we can read the letters P & O on the vessel's side.

PETER NICHOLLS

Labour's Calum Macdonald: "People know the issues already — they want to size you up as a person"

Back in his car, Macdonald explains. "A general election in the Western Isles is like a by-election anywhere else; you get a much greater focus on local issues, and on the candidates. People know the issues already — they want to size you up as a person, because if you are elected, they will expect to meet you in the street."

Macdonald, a native Lewisman whose used to teach politics in California, appreciates the crucial values of politeness, patience and the oblique approach. "The standard Labour Party formula for telephone canvassing is no use here. To ring somebody up and ask them point-blank how they intended to vote would be regarded as extremely rude."

Civility is all. Macdonald even regards his Tory opponent — who poses no serious threat — as a perfectly decent fellow, and thinks publication of the sleaze story was unkind and irrelevant. In private, he is less kind about his only serious rival, the SNP candidate Anne Lorne Gillies.

Gillies, a fiftyish and freshly remarried blonde with a successful past as a Gaelic singer, recording artist and television presenter, is from Oban, a six-hour ferry journey away, and now lives in Glasgow. She therefore might as well be from Outer Mongolia, but she compensates by campaigning largely in Gaelic.

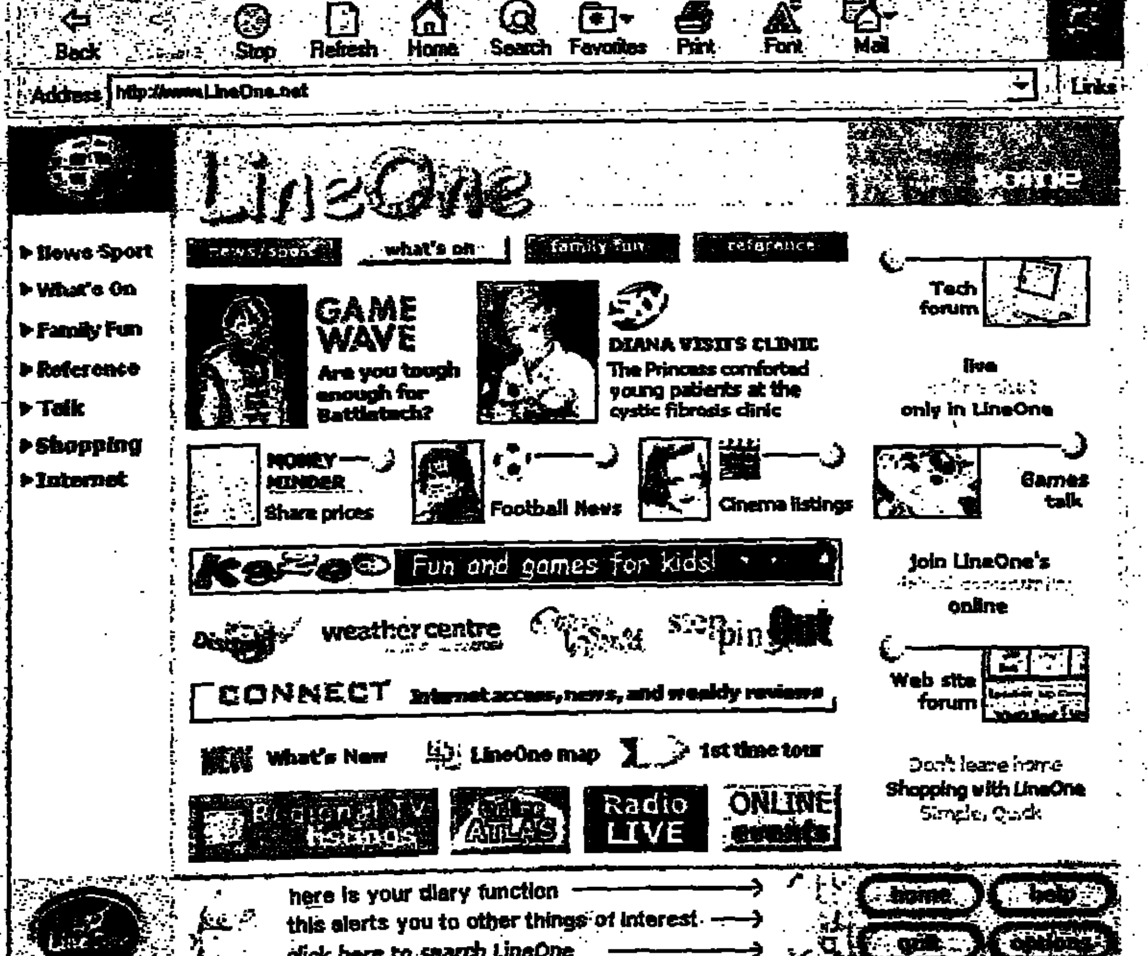
She will have held 28 public meetings by Wednesday night. Attendances are poor. "We have to do them, even if nobody turns up. If we don't, they feel ignored. If we do, they can boast that they didn't go."

I go with her one wild night to a schoolroom in Balallan, a crofting township in the middle of Lewis. Five people turn up. At question time feet shuffle, one man asks about money to maintain roads, and another asks about the building of a new community school, until another member of the audience says, "Och, Anne, give us a song." She obliges. In Gaelic.

An hour later, in the downtown island capital, the reality of Gaeldom is being enacted in Ali's Stornoway Balti House. A common whore, loud and inebriated, lunges in off the street seeking trade. In perfect Gaelic, the waiter orders her to machashoe, of which the drawing-room translation is "Kindly leave the premises at once; you are offending the diners."

The waiter is Bengali, who moved to the isles from Spitalfields only two months ago. There are times when the full-frontal approach is called for after all.

More news, more facts, more fun.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On Thursday, be sure you mark your cross where you know you can place your trust.

You can be sure I will be true to Britain.

John Major

Published by Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HH.

هكذا من الاعلان

هكذا من الاعلى

Homeless line up to be counted at polling booths

Audrey Magee meets voters who live on the streets

AT FIRST glance, Savoy Place, London, seems an enviable address on the electoral register. Look a little closer and you discover that some of the residents are more familiar with the paving stones outside the grand buildings than the comforts within.

Twenty-four of the estimated 2,000 people living on the streets of London have registered to vote in Thursday's election, 20 from Westminster and four from Camden. They have given addresses such as "Outside Savoy, London", "Outside Brook Street Agency" and "Outside Adelphi".

Patrick Gallinagh spends his nights in the windswept arches outside Shell Mex House in Savoy Place. Originally from Donegal in the Irish Republic, he became homeless six years ago when his business running a snack van collapsed. He may have lost his home, but he does not intend to lose his vote. "Why should you be on the electoral register all your life, then, all of sudden because your circumstances change, you lose your vote?"

He wants as many homeless people to vote as possible, to encourage the Government to listen to them. He wants the politicians to do something to reduce the number of mentally ill people living rough and to stem the flow of middle-aged people on to the streets. "At least when you are on the register, you have an MP to complain to."

Homeless organisations, *The Big Issue* newspaper and councils around the country have been urging homeless people to register to vote. Their efforts have met with mixed success. No one has registered in Liverpool but 30 have in Manchester, giving addresses such as "Park Bench, Piccadilly Gardens". In Brighton, 12 New Age travellers registered to vote. They gave their address as "The Mobile Home, Waterhall Park, Brighton".

Ivor Jones, spokesman for Westminster Council, said electoral registration offices had a duty to ensure that everyone entitled to vote was registered, including the homeless. The council distributed leaflets to day centres used by the homeless to tell them that they were entitled to vote.

Some homeless people, however, have slipped through the net. Michael Harrison, 55, voted Labour until he became homeless 15 years ago. He spends most of his days wandering around Waterloo and or "Cardboard City" looking for people to talk to.

Two weeks ago he went to Lambeth Council for his voting card but discovered that he was too late to register. He wanted to use his vote to help Labour to win and push the Conservatives out. "We are part of society and we do have something to contribute, even if people in big houses think we don't. But the council won't accept my vote because I don't have a permanent home and they did not have anywhere to contact me."

To qualify to vote on Thursday, people must have been resident in Britain on October 10 last. Shelter, the organisation for homeless people, said some councils such as Westminster and Manchester had taken a more lenient view on the term "resident" than others. A spokeswoman said: "Not everybody wants to vote and we cannot make that decision for them, but everybody should have the right to exercise that vote. The law of residence is being interpreted so rigidly in some areas that they do not have that vote. The park bench should become an acceptable address because it is the only home hundreds of people know."

NICK WRAY

Elizabeth Gresham appreciated the flowers presented to her by Paddy Ashdown

Ashdown wins over lifelong Tory voter

PADDY ASHDOWN may be feeling his age after six weeks of campaigning, but he could have hoped for no better lift yesterday than meeting the woman who must be Britain's oldest voter to switch allegiance.

At the age of 101, Elizabeth Gresham, a lifelong Tory supporter, has decided to back the Liberal Democrats tomorrow.

Mrs Gresham was able to vote for the first time in 1929, when she helped to elect Stanley Baldwin as Conservative Prime Minister. She narrowly missed qualifying to vote in 1924 because she was 29, and only women aged over 30 were eligible.

Introduced to Mr Ashdown in Cheltenham during his whistlestop tour of eight key seats, she gave him a ringing endorsement. "He's wonderful," she told reporters from a chair at the front of the 200-strong crowd that had gathered to listen to him speak.

Why had she turned her back on the Tories? "I don't think they are worth it. They haven't done what they said they would do. They have had too much for themselves and not enough for the older and the poorer people."

However, she believed Mr Major to be a "nice man".

As for Labour, she said she did not know what Tony Blair stood for.

Lady Smith: plea to Scots

John Smith widow ends her silence

WITH just two days to go before polling day, the widow of John Smith, the late Labour leader, ended her six-week silence by appealing to the Scottish people to vote Labour and complete her husband's "unfinished business" (Shirley English writes).

Baroness Smith of Gilmorehill, who went abroad to escape the general election campaign, delivered a message for Scottish voters in a letter to Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor.

She wrote: "There is nothing more important now than a Labour victory. I know this is what John wanted and worked for. And a Labour victory allows us to complete what John called unfinished business, the creation of a Scottish parliament."

Lady Smith added: "So I urge all of Scotland not to waste their votes, but to vote Labour, the only party that can defeat the Conservatives."

Straw faces up to realities of power after 18 years in opposition

Labour's likely Home Secretary is one of the few in Tony Blair's team to have any experience of government, writes Peter Riddell

JACK Straw was yesterday directly confronted with one of the main responsibilities that will face him if he becomes Home Secretary this weekend. At 8.30am he arrived at Gatwick, only to be faced with the closure of both terminals because of an IRA bomb threat. This forced him to cancel his flight and return to London to make a shortened visit to the West Country by train. By one of those coincidences of campaigning, Peter Lilley arrived at Gatwick at the same time, though most eyes were on the actress Joanna Lumley who had also been held up.

For Mr Straw yesterday this was a time-consuming inconvenience borne with good humour. As a likely Home Secretary, terrorism will be an urgent and unavoidable priority.

Mr Straw is at pains to take nothing for granted about either tomorrow's election on what will happen to him afterwards. Premature triumphalism is not only definitely off-message but it is also seen as tempting fate.

Like many Labour spokesmen of his generation, he still cannot quite believe what now looks certain. All his eighteen years as an MP have been spent in Opposition from when he was 32 to 50. Yet he is one of the very few of the likely Blair Cabinet to have any experience at all of government.

It is now, however, virtually 20 years since he left Whitehall but he regards his three years as a special adviser to Barbara Castle and then to Peter Shore as giving him a direct working knowledge of how departments and Whitehall operated. He learntv what makes ministers effective from two contrasting examples — Lady Castle, intuitive, and the new Lord Shore deliberative. Both were highly regarded by their civil servants for having a clear idea of what they wanted to do and for their courtesy.

Mr Straw is one of the few Labour leaders who has changed the policy debate in his area — along, notably with Gordon Brown, the policy giant of Blairism, and David Blunkett. As Shadow Home Secretary from summer 1994, Mr Straw has produced proposals on disorder and anti-social behaviour which may have annoyed civil libertarians but have directly addressed the concerns of ordinary people. Labour has been well ahead of the Tories in tackling questions of order, as opposed to punishment, in the process neutralising Tory attacks on crime during the election.

A crime and disorder Bill will definitely feature in the Queen's Speech on May 14, aimed at young offenders and at so-called "petty" crimes now widely ignored by the criminal justice system. Mr Straw's argument is not only that these offences cause most problems on a day-to-day basis but that they also lead on to more serious crimes. Hence his support for a zero tolerance approach. He believes that by dealing with young offenders more promptly and effectively they will not go on to become habitual criminals. This can be done partly through legislation and partly through changing the attitudes of the courts, the Crown Prosecution Service, the police and special services.

The possibilities, and costs, of a more intensive approach were evident when Mr Straw visited the Atkinson Secure Unit for 13-17 year olds in Exeter. You have to be a danger to yourself and to others to be there — as was clear on the faces of the disturbed and troubled teenagers. The 50-strong staff for just 16 inmates were dedicated, level-headed and impressive, but it costs a lot of money with 24-hour a day close supervision.

Mr Straw is right that much can be done to improve the handling of young offenders and to tackle minor crimes and anti-social behaviour. As Home Secretary, he would also face urgent pressures over the rise in the prison population, over immigration and over drugs.

He has a clear idea of what he wants to do if appointed — the *if* is also emphasised — but holding office is very different from preparing for it. No wonder that the eagerness of the Labour leadership for election night is mixed with apprehension.

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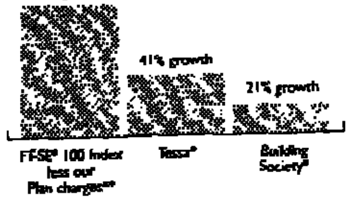

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Helping of mixed metaphor spices up breakfast

ONE of the benefits of spending all day listening to election coverage on the radio is that it can be done in carpet slippers. But yesterday, John Major obliged me to pull on my wellies, trudge to a nearby farm and investigate the *breakfast habits of pigs.*

In the dreaded "ten past eight" slot on *Today*, James Naughtie had been asking Mr Major about the Tory divisions on Europe, citing contrasting statements by Kenneth Clarke and Michael Howard. Mr Major began: "You're making a complete pig's breakfast, if I may put it that way James, of two distinct issues."

A bloated electorate fed from the same old menu for six weeks is entitled to feel a frisson of excitement at the prospect of this new offering, merged in the Downing Street kitchens from those better-known items, a dog's breakfast and a pig's ear.

RADIO WATCH

PETER BARNARD

So it was off to Plough Farm, where the farmer assured me that there is indeed such a thing as a *pig's breakfast* and it consists of cereals (British), soya (Asian), water (privatised) and skimmed milk (source unknown). Farmers mix this delicious repast using a computer (Japanese) and it emerges into troughs (British) having acquired the appearance and consistency of porridge (Scots).

I pass on this vital information to pre-empt accusations that Mr Major has lost control of his metaphors. Indeed, pigs' breakfasts are already catching on: within minutes of Mr Major serving one, Naughtie announced that, on another aspect of policy, Mr Major had made "a pig's breakfast of a comparison". For *Today*, read *Farming Today*.

If the eating habits of pigs freshened up the Major interview, Tony Blair's sartorial routine was to become the focus of *Election Call* on Radio 4 and BBC1. John Malone, from Melrose in Scotland, rang to say that judging by Mr Blair's tie — shiny blue with white spots — "he's a plastic Tory. Why have a dummy when you can have the real thing?"

Mr Blair: "The choice of my tie is made pretty quickly in the morning. *It's the first that comes out* of the drawer. So I wouldn't read too much into it."

So the Blair household is much like any other and it is only by a miracle that he has yet to give a speech wearing, shall we say, a donkey jacket. Let us hope he does not, or I would have to pay another visit to Plough Farm.

SIMON WALKER

John Major at a business breakfast at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. If defeated tomorrow, he is expected to make an announcement about his future as Tory leader on Friday

Major may hold fort until July

The Tories are pondering how to prevent a bloody battle for the succession thwarting effective opposition to a Labour government, writes **Philip Webster**

THE Cabinet has all but given up on the election. What now preoccupies its senior members is the recovery that must follow as soon as possible if the Conservative Party is to regain its reputation as a fighting force.

John Major is being urged to make a quick announcement, after a Conservative defeat, that although he intends to step down as party leader, he will not do so until July, to enable a party leadership election to be held in orderly fashion and to allow the potential contenders to get to know their electorate, the new intake of Tory MPs.

Some ministers believe that Mr Major should not on Friday rule out resubmitting himself for the leadership in the July contest. They believe that he should say that he will decide on his own future after due consideration and that he intends to go on as Leader of the Opposition at least until then.

The supporters of this course believe that if the defeated Tories were immediately to mount a credible challenge to Tony Blair they could not afford to have a lame-duck leader for three months — which Mr Major would undoubtedly be, had he stated that he was staying on merely to oversee the election of his successor. The chances of Mr Major remaining leader beyond July are slim to negligible, but those ministers believe that he and his party will have more authority in those vital months if he has not announced that he is going for good.

If the Tories lose tomorrow one of the principal reasons will have been that the Labour Party hardly let them off the hook for five years. Labour's recovery from the shock of the 1992 election defeat was swift; from the election of John Smith as party leader in July of that year, Labour has maintained almost unrelenting pressure on Mr Major's government.

Senior ministers believe that if the Conservatives are to win the general election after this one, the fightback must begin immediately. They want to give Mr Blair and his team a taste of their own medicine. How to do that when the Conservative Party looks likely to be convulsed by a bloody leadership battle is the question that is most exercising their minds.

They believe that, after the initial honeymoon period, following Labour's long years in opposition, the harsh realities of office might abruptly dawn on Mr Blair. The European Union summit in Amsterdam, which seems certain to throw up previously hidden party divisions, and the Bill providing for a referendum on Scottish devolution, about which few English Labour MPs are enthusiastic, are two obvious sources of internal conflict, in addition to the tough economic decisions which may lie just over the horizon for Gordon Brown.

"We have got to hit them straightaway. Our route back to power in five years' time will be to put them on the defensive as soon as we can. Tony Blair will find that life is very different at ten points behind in the polls rather than in front," a Cabinet source said.

Mr Major's bearing in the wake of a heavy defeat tomorrow night is regarded as central to the Conservative Party's immediate fortunes. A leisurely-paced contest would suit most of the leadership contenders — certainly those who are not currently regarded as the front-runners, giving them time to make their pitch.

Others such as Michael Heseltine, Michael Portillo and John Redwood, whose form is in the book for all to read, might believe they would profit from an earlier battle. If Mr Major decides to go quickly, or is forced to do so by the clamour of backbench opinion, there could well be a period of lengthy turmoil that would allow Mr Blair a clear run for his first 100 days at least.

All eyes will be on Mr Major in the early hours of Friday if the result is only one-third as bad as the opinion polls suggest. He has taken a lot over the last few years, and could be forgiven for wanting to leave the scene as soon as is decently possible. But if the threatened bloodbath is to be avoided he may have to go on for a little longer yet.

Redwood would be first off the starting blocks

If the Tories lose, challenges will begin swiftly, writes **Andrew Pierce**

JOHN REDWOOD will be one of the first heavyweight leadership contenders to deliver a public verdict on John Major's future if the Tories go down to heavy defeat.

On Friday, only hours after Mr Major — or, as seems *unlikely*, Mr Blair — has conceded defeat, Mr Redwood will appear on Radio 4's *World at One* programme. He is also on Radio 4's *Any Questions* that night.

Mr Major is expected to announce that he will stand down if the Tories lose, but to stay on for several months to try to ensure an orderly transition. That would also have the effect of impeding Mr Redwood. The temptation for Mr Redwood to disagree with Mr Major over the timing of any contest, on two prime time media showcases, could prove irresistible.

Mr Redwood will divide the weekend between his Wokingham constituency and the Conservative 2000 think-tank in London, which he set up after his leadership challenge in 1995.

He will have to share the limelight on Friday with William Hague, who succeeded him as Welsh Secretary. Mr Hague's election result will not be declared until lunchtime on Friday. Mr Hague, the bookmakers' favourite to succeed Mr Major, will be interviewed live on BBC Radio 5 Live and on ITN after the declaration. He will spend the rest of the weekend in his constituency. "He will be waiting by the telephone for the Prime Minister to ring in the hope that he will be invited to rejoin Mr Major's Cabinet," said one of Mr Hague's aides. "And my tongue is not in my cheek."

All eyes will be on Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, who has emerged as a strong favourite to succeed Mr Major, possibly with the Prime Minister's backing. Mr Heseltine's aides declined to give details of his plans but he is expected to sound out colleagues by telephone from his Oxfordshire estate. No decision has been taken on whether to grant interviews.

Michael Portillo, a favourite of the Tory Right, has decided to maintain a low profile in his Enfield Southgate constituency and at his London home. So far he has not accepted any interview requests and is thought to be unlikely to speak out so soon after a defeat.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, has received numerous requests for interviews at his count in his Charnwood constituency. No decision has been taken on whether to take up the offers. The timing would be crucial. His result is not anticipated until about 6am on Friday, by which time Mr Major and Mr Blair will know whether either can form a government. Mr Dorrell will spend the weekend at his London home.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, will be at his home in his Edinburgh Pentland constituency at the weekend. Mr Rifkind, whose 4,148 majority is vulnerable to a Labour landslide, has made no decision on whether to take up media invitations.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will stay in his Nottinghamshire constituency all weekend. But friends say that does not preclude his speaking on the telephone to radio, television and newspaper reporters.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will also be maintaining a discreet silence in his Folkestone constituency where he spends most weekends. Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, who would stand on a leadership ticket opposed to membership of the European Union, will remain in Harrogate.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tory's dog to be kept on leash

The chairman of the Conservative Association in the Henley constituency of Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, was yesterday ordered by magistrates to keep Nettie, her Jack Russell terrier, under control. Elizabeth Tross Youle pleaded guilty to owning a dangerous dog. The court was told that Nettie sank its teeth into the hand of a woman cashier in a department store last Christmas Eve.

Campaign heat

Polling day could be the warmest so far this year with the temperature rising to 22.7C (73F) across much of Britain. Voters will not need umbrellas except perhaps in northern Scotland.

Forecast, page 28

Candidate bailed

Chris Thomas, 49, Lib Dem candidate for Waveney, Suffolk, was released on police bail after questioning about an alleged assault on a 10-year-old girl. A report will go to the Crown Prosecution Service.

D:Ream on TV

The Labour campaign anthem *Things Can Only Get Better* by D:Ream will be on BBC TV's *Top of the Pops* on Friday. Tories had asked for a radio ban on the rerelease, which is 19 in the charts.

ELECTION TRAIL

Conservatives: Michael Heseltine, Michael Portillo in the West; Virginia Bottomley in the North West; Stephen Dorrell in London; William Hague in Wales; Peter Lilley, Ann Widdecombe in the North; Nicholas Lyell in the Midlands.

Labour: John Prescott in the North and Yorkshire; Chris Smith in Norwich and Waveney; Michael Meacher in the South; Clare Short in Wales; Donald Dewar in Birmingham; Mo Mowlam in the North West; George Roberston in Dumfries.

Liberal Democrats: Paddy Ashdown, Shirley Williams, Emma Nicholson, Peter Thurnham in the South West.

On Screen: *Election Call* (BBC1 and Radio 4, 9.05am) with John Major.

CORRECTIONS

The Referendum Party candidate for Blaby, R. Harrison, has not withdrawn (report, yesterday) and is still standing. The Referendum Party candidate in Burnely, R. Oakley, is also still standing. P Ballard does not represent the Referendum Party in Sherwood; he is the British National Party candidate. The Referendum Party candidate for Bristol West is Lady Beauchamp, not B. Slater, who is standing in Bury South.

Yesterday's article "An end to this literal democracy" discussed bogus election candidates, and was accompanied by a photograph of Lisa Lovebucket, the Rainbow Party candidate in Hackney North & Stoke Newington. We are happy to point out that she is not a bogus candidate who has set out to confuse voters and has never misrepresented the party she stands for.

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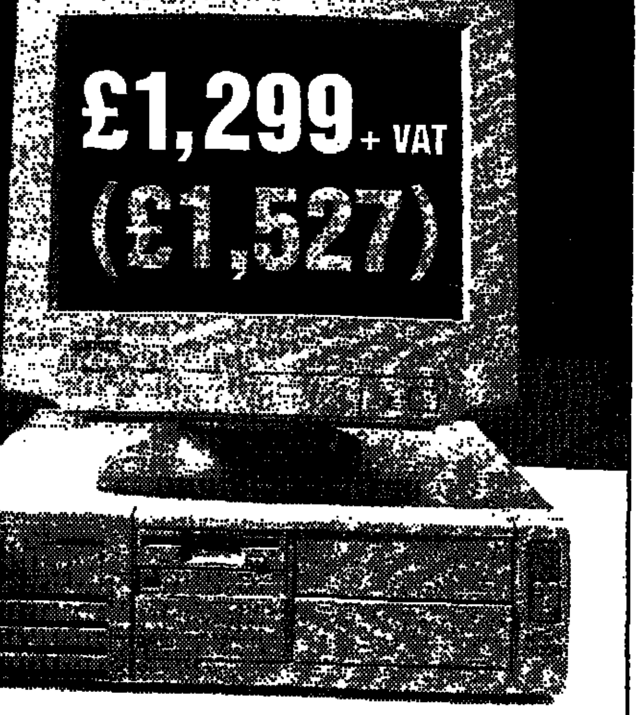

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How power changes hands in Whitehall behind closed doors

The mandarins are on hand to ensure that the post-election tidying up goes smoothly, writes **Valerie Elliott**, Whitehall Editor. Preparations mean that any change of guard at Downing Street would be complete by lunchtime on Friday, with senior Cabinet appointments to be announced that evening

THERE is no ceremony to hand over the keys for 10 Downing Street. The British constitution works on the principle that Her Majesty's Government always goes on.

The main visible symbol of the passing of power is the transfer of the official car. If John Major leads the Conservatives to defeat, the most immediate change will be from the prime ministerial Daimler to back-up Jaguar.

Otherwise Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, and senior mandarins ensure that any changeover is seamless. It is also usually swift and smooth.

Timing largely depends on the outgoing Prime Minister, whether to concede during the night, or cling on hoping for some salvage from the wreckage. This is the element which Sir Robin has to leave largely unrehearsed, but even then various scripts are set in place.

A Conservative victory would signal little change. Mr Major is not obliged to do so, but would probably ask for an audience with the Queen. He would also reshuffle his Cabinet and junior Ministers.

In the event of a hung Parliament, decisions are left to politicians, and they must be given reasonable time to reach pacts and coalitions. The golden triangle of senior officials — Sir Robin, Sir Robert Fellowes, private secretary to the Queen, and Alex Allan, the Prime Minister's principal private secretary — may advise and run messages. But politicians must talk to each other and discuss terms.

The onus is to sort it out in such a way that a second general election is not inflicted on the British public.

But Whitehall is not anticipating such manoeuvring this week. With a sustained Labour lead in the polls, senior mandarins believe a Labour victory appears inevitable.

In defeat, or even facing defeat, Mr Major and Norma are expected to return to Downing Street in the early hours of Friday. They would thank staff and bid them farewell. But there is not much dignity — Mrs Major has already alluded to the brutal nature of the exit from office. Officials will have started packing the photographs, hi-fi, and other personal possessions from the private flat, to be stored in adjacent offices until the removal men are called. Just like holiday lets, cleaners would also start work to leave the rooms pristine for the Blairs.

Mr Major would ask for an audience with the Queen to deliver his resignation. This would be expected about 11am or 11.30am. Meanwhile, he would approve the handover of certain policy papers for Mr Blair. His papers on Northern Ireland, particularly discussions with other political parties and any pledges made, are likely to be included in this batch, as are briefings on the Inter-Governmental Conference and the single currency.

Otherwise his papers would be collected and held in the Cabinet Office until it was time for their release to the Public Record Office. The Majors would leave Downing Street for Buckingham Palace. Mr Major would have a private audience to offer his formal resignation. The Queen would speak briefly to them both before they departed.

By tradition, the new Prime Minister sends a letter to the outgoing one, allowing him the use of Chequers for the night or weekend, but it is understood that the Majors have already said that in defeat they would return home to Stukeley, Huntingdon.

Mr Major of course would meet Mr Blair at the State Opening of Parliament, and within a month they would have a formal meeting to discuss a resignation honours list. Sir Robert Fellowes will have already invited Mr Blair to come to the Palace. At 11.30 or noon, perhaps a little later, Tony Blair and his wife Cherie would arrive in the official car of the Leader of the Opposition. Mr Blair would meet Mr Allan, and and then have a private audience with the Queen, where she formally asks him to form a Government. Mrs Blair would then be invited to join her husband to meet the Queen, before they leave in the official Daimler for a triumphant return to Downing Street.

> ‘There is no dignity. Mrs Major has alluded to the brutal nature of leaving office’

By lunchtime, the new Prime Minister would address the nation and the media from the threshold of Downing Street before being cheered by Number 10 staff in the hall and being formally introduced as the new PM by Mr Allan.

He would then be led along the ground-floor corridor to the Cabinet room for a formal meeting with Sir Robin Butler.

One of the first tasks would be to show the Blairs the private flat. Mrs Blair is then expected to work out their domestic arrangements while Mr Blair gets down to the business of the job. He would be presented with a three-inch file of briefing papers on the job of PM, from the secret plan to press the nuclear button in the event of a nuclear war, to his expenses in office.

The pressing consideration would be key staff he wishes to bring into Number 10. Jonathan Powell, his present chief of staff, and Alastair Campbell, his press secretary, are expected to be the first appointees. Usual vetting procedures would be arranged later. Then the main task would be to appoint a Cabinet and Ministerial team.

Mr Blair is determined to show a smack of firm leadership from day one. It is expected that by Friday evening the senior posts in Government will be announced. Contingency plans are already in place at the Department of Education and Employment for a team of readers to help David Blunkett as the first blind Cabinet Minister.

Interviews with new Ministers take time, and some restructuring in Whitehall and new titles for Ministers are also expected to prolong final appointments. The deadline however is 6pm on Saturday, when a Privy Council meeting presided by the Queen at Buckingham Palace is scheduled for the official swearing-in of the new Government.

Junior Ministers and party whips are expected to be named on Sunday and Monday. Officials are on standby in every department to be called in to greet new Ministers, arrange briefings and photocalls.

The priority for Mr Blair would be to plan a legislative programme to be set out in the Queen's Speech on May 14. Officials would also begin work at the weekend on papers to be circulated to Ministers in advance of the first Cabinet next Thursday.

Plans for the early Budget will also take precedence, as well as arrangements for the constitutional reforms. Mr Blair would also have to decide whether to send a Minister to a pre-IGC meeting in Brussels next Monday to symbolise a change of Government, or to let Sir Stephen Wall, the British permanent representative to the EU, attend as usual.

The tune changes but the show must always go on: removal men wheel Ted Heath's piano from 10 Downing Street after his defeat in 1974

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Kevin Eason on the prospect of first-time voters turning out tomorrow

Apathy prevails as young fail to see the point

JAMES BERRY is one of the Thatcher generation raised during the 18 years of Conservative government.

He was born on May 1, 1979, just days after the Tories came to power and will vote in the general election next week for the first time — for Labour. He is one of about five million first-timers, young people aged between 18 and 21 who get the chance to vote on May 1, all members of a generation who have no memory of a Labour Party in power.

The winter of discontent, the class war between Tory and socialist and the shake-out of British industry mean nothing to these children of Conservatism, brought up knowing only Margaret Thatcher or John Major in Downing Street.

Yet apathy and alienation could keep the class of 1979 out of the polling booths. Even Mr Berry, a committed Labour supporter, believes that young people are yet to be convinced that voting in a general election matters. "There are people who can't see the point," he says. "I just think Labour is the party for the people and for change, which is what we need now."

A recent MORI poll indicated that 56 per cent of "Thatcher's children" intended to vote for Tony Blair and new Labour. The young voters, according to the poll, felt that the most important issue was education, followed by jobs and healthcare, and believe that Labour has the best policies on those issues.

The poll indicated that 23 per cent of first-time voters will vote for the Conservatives, 11 per cent for the Liberal Democrats and 4 per cent each for the Greens, the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru. Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party attracted support from 2 per cent. Asked who would make a better Prime Minister, Mr Major scored 22 per cent and Mr Blair 43 per cent, with Paddy Ashdown on 8 per cent. Another 12 per cent did not like any of the main leaders and 15 per cent did not know.

An earlier MORI poll found that only 8 per cent of first-time voters believe trade unions were a top issue and in an age when youngsters travel more and are more likely to speak a foreign language, they also seem to be less worried about Europe than their elders: only one in five believed it was the most important issue of the election.

The problem lies in getting the first-time voters to the ballot box, for MORI also found that only 36 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds are certain to vote in this election. Those who do vote have opinions often influenced by their parents: their voting intentions are almost tribal and traditional, according to a series of interviews carried out by *The Times*.

Mr Berry underlined the point, less concerned about Europe than the domestic issues which he believes will decide his local constituency, Nottingham South, where Alan Simpson, a Eurosceptic, looks safe for Labour.

Mr Berry is preparing for his A levels at a sixth-form college in Nottingham and is hoping to go to university to study sports science. His parents work in the National Health Service: his mother is a health visitor, his father a community psychiatric nurse.

He admits that his parents' experience of the health service influenced his decision to vote Labour on his birthday. "Clearly, I was not getting glowing reports of what was happening in the NHS from them," he said.

"Having lived all this time under a Conservative Government, it is time for change."

MICHAEL POWELL

James Berry, above, has made up his mind for Labour, as has Nicola Hodgetts, below left, but Michael Edwards, is undecided between Tories and Lib Dems

'The Tories seem to be the only ones with any sense'

David Chater talks politics to five young people who have plenty of ideas

TIM OFFORD, an A-level student at Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, is determined to make use of his vote on his eighteenth birthday in the new Cambridgeshire South constituency, where the notional Conservative majority is nearly 19,000.

"I will vote because then you feel you have done something, and it will be Tory. They seem to be the only ones with any sense. I was born at the time when a Tory Government won the election and as far as I am concerned, they are not doing particularly bad for us.

"I have got a bad feeling about Tony Blair: he goes on about all these idealisms which seem a bit too much. I think the country is going pretty well at the moment. I am having a great time, so it can stay the same for me.

Dalia Greenwood, an A-level student at The Henrietta Barnett School in Barnet, north London, will be voting on her eighteenth birthday like the other young people in this survey. She will vote in the new Finchley and Golders Green constituency, formerly Hendon South, held by the Conservatives with a large majority in 1992.

"My parents, who are both lawyers, are also both Labour. I have been quite influenced by them because we often have discussions. I am not completely sure how I will vote, although I am probably going to vote Labour because I think they are planning to help state schools. I am also considering the Liberal Democrats because they are very pro-Europe which I am as well. I think there is a lot of stability in unity between countries."

Michael Edwards, from Canterbury, Kent, won in 1992 by Julian Brazier, Conservative, with a majority of 9,997, is studying for three A levels at Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys. He is undecided whether to vote Tory or Liberal Democrat.

"I have mainly looked at issues which affect me personally. I am more interested in environmental issues and like the policies of the Liberal Democrats, especially promoting public transport and reducing the use of cars.

"I don't like Tony Blair very much. I don't think of him as genuine, I think he is slightly fake."

Nicola Hodgetts, from Rhyl in north Wales, a student at the nearby Emrys ap Iwan grant-maintained school, is likely to vote Labour in the new Clwyd West constituency. The old Clwyd North West was won by the Conservative Rod Richards in 1992.

"I will probably vote for Labour because I like the proposals from our local candidate, Chris Ruane. When he says he wants to cut down on crime, he seems to know what the local people want. A lot of people I know have been victims of crime.

"Education is also an important issue and Labour wants to cut class sizes, which I think is very important. What I don't like about the Conservatives is that the rich get richer and the poor poorer."

David Best is planning to vote Labour in the Oldham West and Royston constituency held by Labour's Michael Meacher. He is studying for an NVQ in carpentry and joinery at Oldham College on release from his job with Oldham Council. "I think it is about time they [Labour] had a chance," he said. I work for the building service at Oldham Council and if the Tories stay in, our jobs at the council are pretty well on the line."

Students have power to swing key marginal

About 4,000 new voters in the university town of Loughborough threaten the Tories' 3,500 majority, says **Kevin Eason**

THOUSANDS of first-time voters could hold the balance of power in Loughborough, a key marginal at the heart of Labour's election strategy.

Loughborough is number 45 on Labour's hit-list of marginal seats, but whether it achieves the necessary 4 per cent swing to win may be in the hands of nearly 4,000 students who live in the town in term-time and have registered to vote, among a total of 18,000 students in the constituency.

In 1992 students were on their Easter break when Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, held Loughborough with a majority of nearly 11,000. Boundary changes have reduced that to a notional Conservative majority of 3,500, which is vulnerable to the large student vote. Mr Dorrell has since jumped into the neighbouring, and safer, seat of Charnwood.

The Students' Union mounted a campaign to get students to register and will be pressing them to vote. Kat Myers, a student organiser, said: "There is the feeling among young people that this election is nothing to do with them. But if young people don't participate in the election, they deserve what they get."

Ken Andrew, Mr Dorrell's replacement, is a company director from Watford, whose wife is a London barrister. At 52, he is fighting his first election and is confident of holding the seat against the Labour challenge from Andrew Reed, 32, who is a Blairite.

Loughborough is a microcosm of Middle England, apparently booming, with low unemployment and boasting the biggest Ferrari dealership outside London, which reports record sales. Old industry, based on train-making and textiles, is being replaced by an influx of high-tech companies. But prospects of finding work in those new industries are tough for young people who drop out of the education system early.

Astra Charnwood, one of the new employers, boasts that 60 per cent of recruits are graduates, while Brush Transformers, the train-maker which for decades was the traditional employer for semi-skilled workers, has made about 4,000 workers redundant in recent years.

In a cluster of young people hanging around the town centre, Colin, 19, was in the uniform of the young unemployed: baggy black jeans, shirt-tails hanging out, hair cropped Cantona bald. Clutching his burger and Coke, he said that he had worked for only a year since he left school at 16.

"I dropped out too early and now nobody wants me," he said. "I have been on training schemes but they teach me carpentry and bricklaying and every firm round here wants scientists. Not much hope for me and voting won't change it."

"Even if I get a job, the pay is lousy — a couple of quid an hour for stacking shelves or selling burgers. It's not worth it."

That is the sort of despair Ms Myers, a politics student, is fighting. She said: "The range of opportunities for work for everybody has to be there. Whatever is said by politicians, young people feel insecure about their future.

"Student unemployment is not just the big issue, but changes in the workplace mean that young people are worried about low wages, injuries in the workplace, starting working life in debt.

"Young people will make up an eighth of the electorate this time. They should turn out and make sure that politicians are listening to what we want. It is our future."

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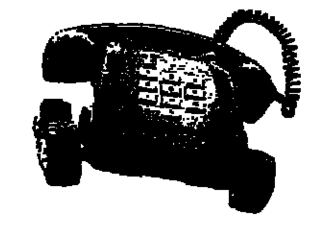

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Colombia	70p	£1.35	Kuwait	70p	£1.02	Sri Lanka	94p	£1.33
Costa Rica	70p	£1.31	Malawi	78p	£1.31	Sweden	22p	29p
Denmark	16p	28p	Malaysia	60p	£1.08	Switzerland	22p	29p
Egypt	78p	£1.26	Mexico	78p	£1.08	Syria	90p	£1.26
El Salvador	70p	£1.31	Namibia	80p	£1.31	Taiwan	40p	£1.08
Fiji	90p	£1.35	Nepal	70p	£1.08	Thailand	70p	£1.08
France	16p	28p	Netherlands	20p	28p	UAE	60p	£1.02
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'Idiot with fax' defies besiegers in Texas

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES

JOE STEFANCHIK / AFP PHOTO / DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Texas police officers man a roadblock on Highway 166 in Fort Davis where Richard McLaren and his Republic of Texas are holed up

THE siege of separatists in Texas entered its third day yesterday with no end in sight, as the man whom police recently called "an idiot with a fax machine" refused to surrender.

Arrest warrants for kidnapping and organised crime failed to intimidate Richard McLaren and his Republic of Texas followers, who are holed up in the rugged Davis Mountains and apparently spoiling for a fight with the authorities. Mike Cox, a police spokesman, admitted that his top priority was to avoid a repeat of the 1993 Waco disaster in which 80 people died.

"We think we can do it right," Mr Cox said, but rapid developments yesterday belied such confidence. As dozens of local residents were evacuated to motels and a Swat team joined police surrounding the compound, Mr McLaren announced that his only interest was in "getting the foreign agents off Texas soil". An unknown number of paramilitary extremists are guarding Mr McLaren's five-acre "embassy" with sniper rifles and petrol-bomb booby-traps. Three group members kidnapped and released an elderly couple living nearby at the weekend, triggering the siege and bringing mounting pressure for swift police action to end it. "You're dealing with a crazy person," Sue Clark, a frightened Fort Davis homeowner, said yesterday. "I really think [Mr McLaren] could do a suicide thing." Dishevelled, intense and fond of making headlines, Mr McLaren claims his group is the legitimate government of a Texas illegally annexed by the United States in 1845. He has waged what the Texas Attorney-General called a campaign of "paper terrorism", seeking to clog courts with bogus claims on state and private properties. "He's loving every minute of this," said Joe Roe, whose door was shot down and shoulder injured with shrapnel in Sunday's kidnapping. "He's bouncing off walls at the moment with all this media interest, but I believe he'll come out for a coffin fitting." Academics have dismissed Mr McLaren's interpretation of history as "goofy". Between 1836 and 1845 Texans voted three times to join the US.

Pentagon poised to cut forces by 50,000

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

THE most comprehensive review of United States defences since the end of the Cold War is expected to result in a reduction of up to 50,000 American fighting troops as the Pentagon paves the way for a new generation of advanced weapons.

In what many US military commanders view as a series of drastic measures, the blueprint for American defence also seems certain to include substantial cuts in the US Air Force and Navy budgets for jet fighters.

The quadrennial defence review, to be made public next month, may even reverse Pentagon doctrine designed to manage two "nearly simultaneous major regional conflicts" at the same time.

William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, gave a clear signal this week that a robust modernisation programme was needed to shape the security environment, protect and promote America's national interests and combat terrorism and other uncertain threats in the future.

"We don't want to engage in a fair fight, a contemporary war of attrition. We want to dominate across the full spectrum of conflict so that if we ever do have to fight, we win on our terms," Mr Cohen said. "We are developing the kind of systems, the kind of leap-ahead technologies whereby we can in fact defend at a much further range away."

Pentagon officials said yesterday that payment for such global weaponry was certain to result in reduced force numbers. The current roster of active service troops stands at one and a half million, down by more than 30 per cent in the last decade.

The US Army is expected to be the hardest hit, losing up to 10 per cent of its 495,000 active duty soldiers, while there are likely to be demands on the joint US Air Force and Navy budgets of $153 billion (£94 billion). The cuts would help to pay for new technologies, including computerised artillery systems and biological weapons detectors. Mr Cohen has been told to maintain the $250 billion-a-year Pentagon budget.

WORLD SUMMARY

90 killed in China rail collision

Beijing: Two passenger trains collided yesterday in China's central Hunan province, killing 90 people and injuring more than 300, the Xinhua news agency said. The crash occurred on one of China's main railway links between the capital and the southern town of Guangzhou.

One train, travelling north from the southwestern city of Kunming, capital of Yunnan province, to Zhengzhou, capital of central Henan province, collided with the rear of a stationary train. *(Reuter)*

Woman savaged

New York: A leopard that escaped from its cage at an animal sanctuary near Oklahoma City and killed a woman was shot dead by police marksmen (Quentin Letts writes). The 70lb female Persian leopard was ambushed when she followed a baited trail that led back to her enclosure. Earlier, the cat had mauled to death Eunice Esquivel, 52, a Puerto Rican tourist.

Belgian strike

Brussels: Magistrates from Brussels and the francophone south of Belgium staged symbolic strikes in protest at accusations of incompetence in the country's child kidnapping, abuse and murder scandals. An official report accused them of sloth and a lack of professionalism. The last such strike was in 1989, over similar complaints. *(Reuter)*

Smoked out

Birobidzhan: A soldier is suspected of starting a series of explosions at an artillery depot in the Russian Far East by careless smoking. The Trans-Siberian railway was blocked and 4,000 people evacuated as metal fragments from explosions showered the area for two days. *(AP)*

Canada flood

Winnipeg: Red River floods surged into Canada, inundating the dyke-protected town of Ste Agathe, 15 miles south of Winnipeg. Most of the 500 residents had been evacuated. *(AP)*

Syrian nerve gas raises war fears

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

MIDDLE East peace efforts suffered another blow yesterday as Israel issued an unprecedented warning to President Assad after the disclosure that Syria has, with Russian aid, begun to manufacture a lethal new nerve gas.

David Levy, the Israeli Foreign Minister, reacted angrily, saying: "The other side must understand that it alone does not control something serious like this, but that we also control things that are seven times more serious."

If a minute quantity of the VX gas comes in contact with exposed skin it can kill in seconds. It permeates light clothing and footwear and, once dispersed, can remain deadly for days or weeks.

Reports of the Syrian development came in the daily *Haaretz* and were later confirmed by Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister. Zeev Schiff, the newspaper's top defence specialist, said: "Syria has reached early stages of a process by which the gas is mounted on surface-to-surface missiles it has stockpiled."

The Syrians already have large quantities of sarin, a gas that acts against the respiratory system. "This time they have entered a new area, a new gas named VX," Mr Schiff told Israel radio in an interview that spread anxiety among Israelis who regard a war with Syria as a strong possibility.

Mr Levy did not spell out in detail the weaponry involved in his threat. Israel has repeatedly refused to comment on reliable foreign reports that a heavily guarded facility in a Tel Aviv suburb is working on advanced biological and chemical weapons. The extent of Israel's biological and chemical warfare capability is subject to a military censorship that is imposed on all correspondents. That censorship has failed to keep secret Israel's arsenal of at least 200 nuclear weapons which, in the last resort, could also be used in response to any Syrian attack.

Haaretz added that Syria had not signed an international chemical warfare agreement banning the manufacture and storage of chemical weapons that took effect yesterday. Iran and Israel have both signed, but, like Russia, have yet to ratify it.

The chemical warfare threat came as attempts to resume Israeli-Syrian peace talks remained deadlocked. Damascus refuses to go back to the negotiating table until Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, repeats a pledge it claims was given by his Labour predecessors to return the whole of the occupied Golan Heights in exchange for peace. Mr Netanyahu has made clear that the strategic Golan plateau, conquered from Syria in the 1967 war, will not all be returned.

Yesterday Mr Mordechai told reporters that Israel had found out about the VX gas a few months ago. It is believed that there are chemical weapon plants close to Aleppo in northern Syria and outside Damascus. Israeli commanders are understood to have discussed a pre-emptive strike similar to that in 1981 against Iraq's nuclear reactor.

Mr Mordechai said of Syria's VX acquisition: "I discussed it with US Defence Secretary [William] Cohen during my last visit to the United States. I discussed it with the Government of the United Kingdom and I think all Western countries know what Syria is producing."

Levy: has biological and nuclear weapons

Most Israelis back Palestinian state

Jerusalem: For the first time an opinion poll has found that most Israelis favour an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — a move opposed by the Government (Christopher Walker writes).

The poll, by Tel Aviv's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, found 51 per cent supported such a solution to achieve peace in the Middle East. Last year, in a similar poll, 48 per cent backed the idea, while a decade ago the figure was 20 per cent. "It is a very major change," Asher Arian, the professor who directed the survey of 1,216 Israelis, told *The Jerusalem Post*. "And it is only one of a number of indicators of continued and growing support for the peace process."

Only 31 per cent of those polled opposed returning any of the Golan Heights to Syria, compared to 35 per cent last year.

US astronaut Jerry Linenger, back to camera, and Russian cosmonaut Vasili Tsibliev, dismantle dust collectors on the outside of Mir space station during a space walk that lasted almost five hours yesterday

Hong Kong dons attack protest ban

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY
IN HONG KONG

A MAJORITY of Hong Kong's university teachers of law, politics and public administration will today present Tung Chee-hwa, Chief Executive-designate, with a statement attacking his proposed laws to limit demonstrations and forbid financial links with foreign political bodies.

The statement, signed by more than 200 academics, rejects Mr Tung's contention that Hong Kong's "fragile" society can easily be shattered by public demonstrations or by foreigners attempting to subvert social order.

China's National People's Congress has voted to expunge Hong Kong's existing laws, which do not require police permission to demonstrate or forbid organisations and parties from receiving funds. The laws will cease on 1 July, the date of the handover.

The academics contend that Hong Kong people are rational and law-abiding and there is no threat to social order. But Mr Tung's proposed laws, they say, are a threat to individual rights.

Women sue New York finance firm for $110m

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THREE women have filed a $110 million (£68 million) lawsuit against a New York investment firm, claiming that they were sexually harassed and that the company's busy trading floor, scene of the alleged abuse, was known as "the pit".

The women claimed that male colleagues at Lew Lieberbaum & Co used them as "human towels", wiping their wet hands on their hair when they returned from the lavatory. Senior men at the company would allegedly unzip their trousers and demand oral sex, while others tugged at the women's clothes in the hope of catching a glimpse of their bodies or to "check" what they were wearing underneath.

Kimberly Casper, 26, Linette Cinelli, 25, and Deana Caliendo, 21, who were employed in varying support roles at the firm, were supported in their Manhattan Federal court lawsuit by the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Commentators said that the case may point to wider problems in the world of New York finance houses.

The company said that it would defend the allegations "vigorously". An unidentified male employee told the *New York Post*, that the women, who no longer work at Lieberbaum, were simply interested in extracting some money from the company. "We're a friendly office, we joke around," he said.

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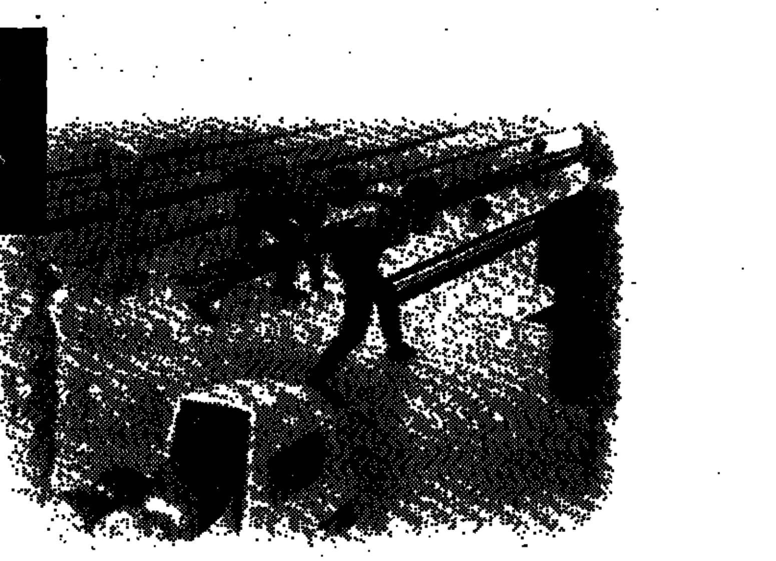

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Europe returns envoys to Tehran with rebuke over Iran-sponsored terror

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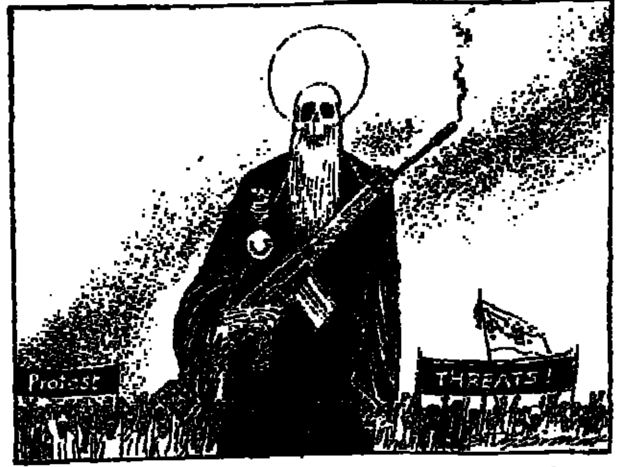

Iran's stance, by Behrendt in *De Telegraf*, Amsterdam

By Michael Binyon
Diplomatic Editor

EUROPEAN UNION foreign ministers agreed yesterday to return their ambassadors to Tehran. At the same time they announced the indefinite cancellation of Europe's high-level "critical dialogue" with Iran and a series of new restrictions in response to official Iranian support for terrorism.

All remaining Iranian intelligence agents are to be expelled from EU countries, and no visas will be granted to any Iranian with security or intelligence links. Visits by ministers to and from Iran are to be cancelled. The arms embargo against Iran will also be enforced.

The ministers said they had always wanted a constructive relationship with Iran, but "progress can only be made if the Iranian authorities respect the norms of international law and refrain from acts of terrorism, including against Iranian citizens living abroad, and co-operate in preventing such acts".

The new measures have been taken in the light of the Berlin court judgment this month that directly implicated senior Iranian officials in the murder of Kurdish exiles in a restaurant. The EU urged other countries to align themselves with the declaration.

"The message to Iran is clear: there can be no business as usual," the Foreign Office said. "We have taken measures which seek to reinforce the message and which show that acts such as the Mykonos [restaurant] murders cannot go unanswered."

The EU measures do not call for any trade embargo or restrictions on EU investment in Iran and participation in Iranian trade. Diplomats said such proposals, advocated by Washington, were not discussed.

The International Rushdie Defence Committee, formed to fight the fatwa against the writer Salman Rushdie, yesterday condemned as "shocking" the decision to return ambassadors to Tehran, and said the action of the ministers "is not so much a slap on the wrist, it's more a nod and a wink to Iran. It sends a clear message that Iran can get away with murder in Europe." Iranian exiles also criticised the EU's decision to send back ambassadors.

At a rally in Luxembourg organised by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, thousands of demonstrators called for the cutting of all commercial and diplomatic links with Tehran.

The National Council of Resistance, which maintains operational centres in Iraq and has engaged in an intensive lobbying campaign throughout Europe, welcomed the measures but said they did not go far enough.

Iranian state radio said yesterday that the measures would not affect the Islamic republic because of Iran's extensive relations with countries outside the EU. "Neither attempts by the White House [to isolate Iran] nor decisions by the European Union will have any effect on the sacred government system of the Islamic Republic of Iran," state-run Tehran radio said in a commentary broadcast before the measures were officially announced.

In response to the end of the "critical dialogue", broken off immediately after the Berlin judgment, Iran's parliamentary foreign relations committee urged the Government to end all talks with the EU. It said such talks could be useful only when they were coupled with good intentions.

Leading article, page 23

Single currency battle dominates French election

From Adam Sage in Paris

EUROPE dominated the French parliamentary election campaign yesterday as new figures signalled more public spending cuts in the run-up to monetary union.

As the Gaullist-led coalition unveiled a manifesto that pledged reductions in tax, the National Statistical and Economic Institute said the public deficit exceeded forecasts last year.

Although the Government failed to meet its 4 per cent target by just 0.2 per cent, the difference will make it more difficult for France to meet an already tight timetable for joining economic and monetary union (EMU).

Economists said another round of austerity measures would be necessary if France was to fulfil Maastricht criteria which demand a public deficit of no more than 3 per cent of gross national product. Their warnings overshadowed the optimistic but vague promises made yesterday in the five-page manifesto presented by Alain Juppé, the Gaullist Prime Minister, and François Léotard, leader of the centrist UDF party.

They pledged to reduce income tax and reform business taxes, but did not make specific commitments. They also vowed to present a five-year plan to limit rises in public spending to less than the rate of inflation, and encourage shorter working hours to create jobs.

M Juppé and M Léotard restated their commitment to join monetary union and said they would promote European social policies to "make France the motor of a citizens' Europe".

However, the centre-right coalition has tried to play down the European debate, aware that it is divided over the question and that many of its voters are hostile to Brussels. They say they need to curb public spending to improve French competitiveness and reduce an unemployment rate of 12.8 per cent, regardless of the single currency.

Edouard Balladur, the former Prime Minister, said yesterday: "Maastricht or not, we need to reduce our deficits, liberate our economy and reduce our taxes."

However, Europe continues to dominate the campaign. The publication of the 1996 public deficit calls into question M Juppé's claim that he has brought French public finances under control and can now move into a new tax-cutting phase.

The left-wing Opposition says President Chirac called the snap election in the knowledge that his Government would have to introduce unpopular measures this autumn. Yesterday the newspaper *Le Monde* said it was increasingly improbable France could meet the criteria for monetary union without additional savings.

Right-wing Eurosceptic voices are starting to make themselves heard. The anti-Maastricht campaigner, Philippe de Villiers, said: "Those who choose to sacrifice the nation to the single currency will lose that precious thing, the nation, and will gain euro-unemployment."

The Socialist leader, Lionel Jospin, has promised to increase public spending, compromising French chances of meeting the criteria on monetary union. But the impact of his message has been limited by Socialist splits over Europe.

M Jospin, who yesterday met his Communist counterpart, Robert Hue, to sign an electoral pact, knows many of his colleagues want him to respect Maastricht orthodoxy.

☐ **Copenhagen:** Denmark's appeal court will hear charges brought by 11 citizens against the Prime Minister, Poul Rasmussen, on May 26. The 11 accuse him of violating the constitution by committing the country to the Maastricht treaty, judicial officials said. *(AFP)*

Murder of seized teenager angers Taiwan

From Reuter
in Taipei

TAIWANESE were outraged yesterday by the murder of an actress's daughter who had been kidnapped on April 14.

The naked body of Pai Hsiao-yen, 17, only daughter of Pai Ping-ping, was found floating in a river in Taipei county late on Monday. Her hands and legs were bound with rope and she had been weighed down with hammers, police said.

Yang Jih-sung, the coroner, said she had died of strangulation and had been dead for at least eight days.

Her kidnappers had demanded a ransom equivalent to £3 million, including half of one of her little fingers with their note. Her mother, who is also a television chat show hostess, wanted to pay, but the kidnappers called off a planned meeting. Police arrested four people last Friday night, but three suspects remain at large.

Police and military agencies yesterday stepped up their island-wide search for the missing suspects and mounted stringent checks at sea ports and airports.

"President Lee is extremely saddened. He is especially outraged by the criminals' inhuman method," the presidential office said. But the opposition New Party called on him to apologise to the public for Taiwan's deteriorating law and order.

The main opposition Democratic Progressive Party demanded the resignations of Lien Chan, the Prime Minister, Lin Feng-cheng, the Interior Minister, and Yao Kao-chiao, the National Police Administration chief.

REUTER

Actress Pai Ping-ping, left, with her daughter, Hsiao-yen, not long before the kidnap.

Chirac to seek ban on human cloning

By Adam Sage

PRESIDENT CHIRAC of France is to seek an international agreement banning scientists from cloning humans.

The French President said yesterday that cloning "would in effect negate the very foundation of the identity and dignity of the human being". He described it as a degrading attack on the human condition and said: "It must be forbidden".

M Chirac said France would ask its European partners to adopt a declaration seeking a UN ban on human cloning. He would also raise the question with President Clinton at the next G7 summit in Denver in June.

"Some people imagine they will achieve immortality through cloning," the President said. "Others think they will be able to rediscover a loved one. Cloning has been spoken of as a new means of reproduction." His reaction was a "vehement, categorical, definitive and ethical condemnation of all reproductive cloning of human beings."

☐ **Bonn:** German scientists, haunted by memories of Nazi attempts to engineer a "master race", urged that human cloning should be banned absolutely; everywhere and forever. "The cloning of humans would be a violation of human existence," Wolfgang Fruehwald, president of the German Research Association, said in Bonn. *(Reuter)*

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Yeltsin's puppet held for ransom

From Richard Beeston
in Moscow

RANSOM demands have been made for Boris Yeltsin and Vladimir Zhirinovsky — two of Russia's best-loved television puppets who have been abducted.

Three characters from the popular television series *Kukly* (Dolls) — Russia's equivalent of *Spitting Image* — went missing two weeks ago from a Moscow studio warehouse. Being held are Mr Yeltsin, the Russian President, Mr Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist leader, and Aleksandr Livshits, who was Finance Minister. Each cost the equivalent of £4,000 to make.

"We got a call a few days after the dolls went missing," said a programme source. "A man's voice told us that if we wanted to see them again we could buy them back. The situation is very delicate, I cannot say any more."

While Mr Livshits, recently sacked in a government shake-up, is not a central figure, Mr Zhirinovsky features regularly in the series and Mr Yeltsin is the star.

Since taking to the air in 1994 on NTV, Russia's independent television channel, *Kukly*'s sophisticated and irreverent satire of the country's political elite has been a huge hit. But the programme has also attracted unwanted attention, including a threatened prosecution by the Russian Prosecutor-General which collapsed amid widespread ridicule.

However, resourceful criminals could be harder to beat. *Kukly*'s makers refused to say whether the abductors had threatened to harm the puppets, but say they will negotiate. "We lost five puppets just after we started," said Vasili Grigoriev, the producer. "We informed the police, but nothing happened. This time we are going to do things our own way."

Luckily for *Kukly*, the real Mr Yeltsin is holidaying at a Black Sea resort, so his character is not being missed.

Bomb raid plea to Chechnya

From Robin Lodge in Moscow

ANATOLI KULIKOV, the Russian Interior Minister, yesterday accused the new leaders of Chechnya of sponsoring terrorism, after two bomb attacks at railway stations in southern Russia and a reported attack on a Russian border post.

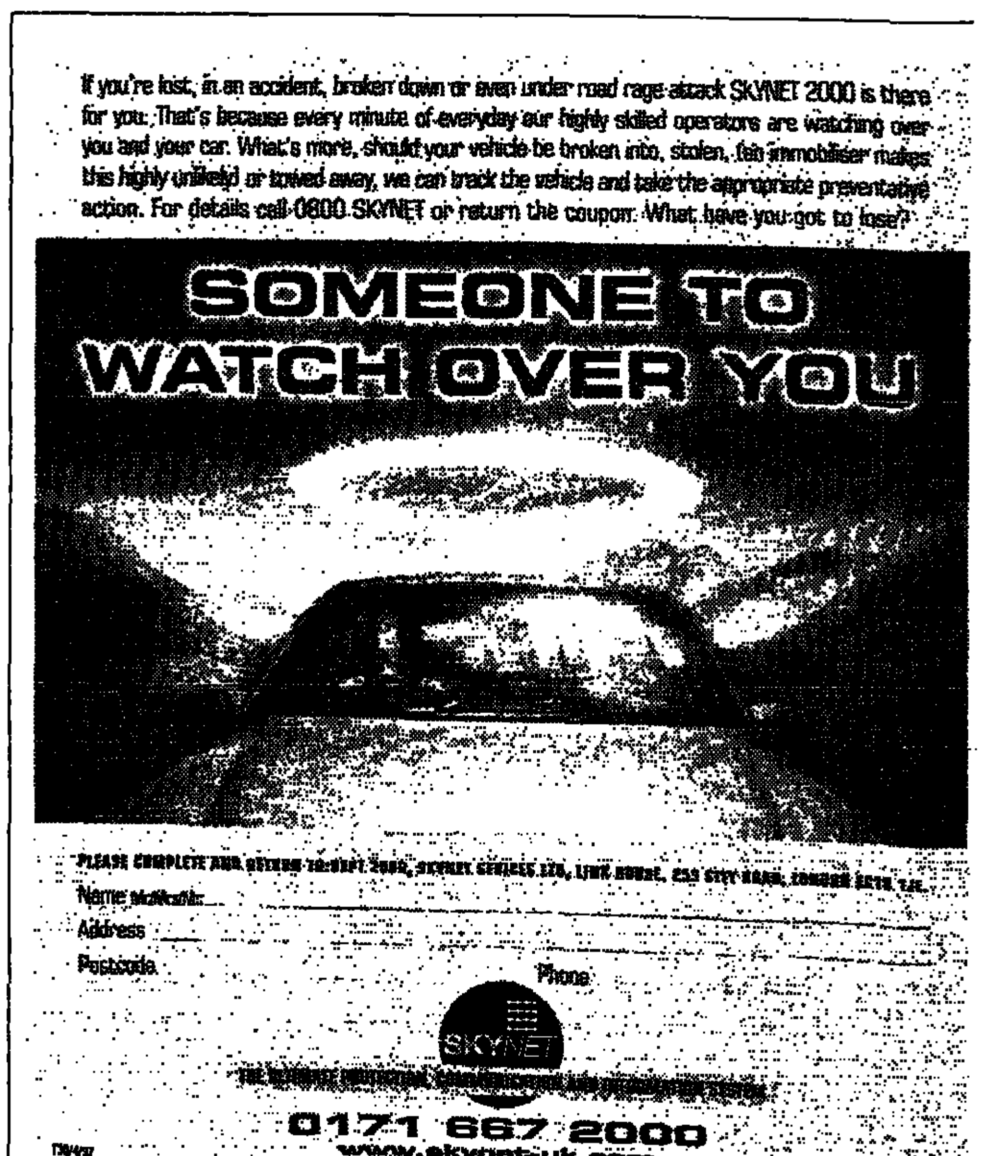
General Kulikov appealed to President Maskhadov of Chechnya to "get rid of terrorists in his entourage" and spoke of a possible anti-Chechen backlash from the Russian population. "I would like to appeal to the people of Russia to comply strictly with the law, to help the law enforcement agencies and not to allow any lynching to happen," he said.

He was speaking after a bomb explosion on Monday at a station in Pyatigorsk in Russia's North Caucasus region. Two people were killed and 17 injured. General Kulikov confirmed reports that two Chechen women had been arrested on suspicion of planting the bomb. He said they were known to have taken part in the hostage-taking raid on the south Russian town of Budennovsk in June 1995, when more than 100 people were killed.

The commander of Russian forces in the North Caucasus reported that a police checkpoint on the border between Chechnya and Dagestan had come under attack on Monday from about 20 Chechen gunmen. A three-hour gun battle had caused an unspecified number of casualties.

The Pyatigorsk bomb followed a similar blast at a railway station in the southern town of Armavir, which killed two people and injured eight. The authorities link the attacks with a threat by Salman Raduyev, a renegade Chechen commander, to wage a war of terror to avenge the death of the rebel leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev, a year ago.

President Yeltsin warned the Chechen authorities of a sharp deterioration in relations if they did not crack down on terrorism. He ordered strict security measures in the region. The Chechen authorities deny involvement in the attacks.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Aid staff catalogue 'barbarities' of Zaire rebel forces

From David Orr in Nairobi

AS REBELS in Zaire push towards Kinshasa, the capital, details are emerging of alleged human rights violations in territory under their control. Crimes of murder, rape and looting have long been blamed on the ill-disciplined Zairean Army, but until now allegations of atrocities by the rebels have been few.

The lengthening list of barbarities ascribed to Laurent Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire is revealed in two confidential aid agency reports obtained by *The Times*. So sensitive are the contents, and so fearful are the organisations of rebel recrimination against their field staff, that it is not possible to quote at length from the reports.

Those who have suffered most at rebel hands are Rwandan refugees unable or unwilling to return to the homeland they fled after the 1994 genocide. However, there are also numerous allegations of atrocities directed at Zairean civilians in areas occupied by Mr Kabila's forces.

The confidential reports allege that crimes against both Rwandan refugees and Zairean civilians started long before concerns arose over the fate of tens of thousands of refugees still missing in the forests near Kisangani. The information, gathered on aid agency missions in eastern Zaire, points to a systematic campaign of extermination of refugees and of intimidation of Zaireans in rebel territory.

Mr Kabila has dismissed allegations that his fighters have slaughtered large numbers of the Rwandan refugees.

One aid agency document obtained by *The Times* refers to indications that "serious violations" of international humanitarian and human rights laws have taken place, and are continuing, in areas controlled by the rebels.

Testimony, says one of the reports, was gathered from expatriates working in Zaire and from Zairean villagers, many of whom were visibly scared of the rebels. These sources gave evidence to the mission that the military are killing refugees. The report states that it has been rebel practice to exterminate refugees in recent months and that the practice goes on.

The rebels are said to have originally targeted male refugees, but recently have included women and children.

Military commanders and members of a secret service body recently established by the rebels told the aid agency mission that they went into the rainforest specifically to look for refugees. They needed aid agencies as bait to entice refugees to open roads where they could be eliminated.

Most of Rwanda's refugees returned home last year, but some moved deeper into the Zairean interior ahead of the advancing Zairean rebels. Among the refugees are believed to be a hard core of Hutu militiamen who participated in Rwanda's genocide.

Local people in the Shabunda area visited by the aid agency are said to suffer intimidation and threats from the rebels. According to one report, villagers have been told not to help the refugees but to persuade them to come into the open.

The intimidation campaign was reportedly stepped up by the rebels after an "ideological seminar" in Shabunda in March, which all regional community chiefs were obliged to attend. The aid agency mission collected evidence that Zaireans who subsequently sheltered refugees were killed.

"It seems clear the military have a very clear, well defined and systematic mission of 'cleaning' the area", says another report by a British aid agency. This also gives details of massacres of Zairean civilians and Rwandan refugees.

☐ **Nice:** A French court sentenced Ramazani Baya, Zaire's former Ambassador to Paris, to a suspended two-year jail term yesterday for the manslaughter of two boys in a Riviera traffic accident. The Nice court also fined him Fr56,000 (£5,900) and ordered him to pay the families Fr700,000 damages. *(Reuter)*

ABDELHAK SENNA / EPA

One of more than 5,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees found by UN aid workers yesterday as they left the forest 25 miles south of Kisangani

Abducted children 'taken for slaughter'

By Sam Kiley, Africa Correspondent

HUTU children close to starvation were slung into the back of a lorry "like sacks of potatoes" and abducted by Tutsi soldiers in eastern Zaire, United Nations officials said yesterday, as fears grew that the youngsters had been slaughtered.

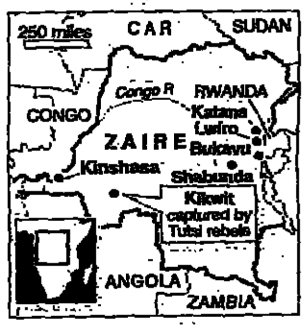
Sources at the United Nations Children's Fund and other agencies connected with the Lwiro children's hospital, said the Tutsi soldiers fired into the air, beat up two nurses, abducted 50 children and 60 adults, and drove off in a lorry, threatening that they would be back. "Some of the soldiers said that the young [Rwandan] Hutu refugees would grow up to be killers and that they should therefore die," one relief worker said, quoting a witness in the small town close to Bukavu, in South Kivu province.

Another source said that the toddlers — close to death as a result of malnutrition after seven months on an aimless trek through Zaire's jungles ahead of the Tutsi advance — were thrown into the lorry "like sacks of potatoes".

"They will not live long without expert medical care," said a relief worker associated with the hospital.

The children have not been seen since they were abducted last week and most aid workers said that they feared the worst.

"There have been reports that they may have been killed," Pamela O'Toole, a spokeswoman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said.



Kabila agrees to talks with Mobutu on ship

Lubumbashi: Zaire's rebel leader, Laurent Kabila, said yesterday that he had agreed to meet President Mobutu on a ship in the Atlantic, off Zaire's coast, to discuss a transfer of power in Kinshasa.

Mr Kabila said: "I have agreed to President Nelson Mandela's request that I meet Mr Mobutu on a ship off the Atlantic coastline to discuss Mr Mobutu's departure," saying the ship would be a South African Navy vessel.

The ship said to have been chosen for the talks, the *SAS Outeniqua*, bought cheaply from Russia in 1993, is the depleted South African Navy's newest, and has been dubbed "the Grey Diplomat" because of previous humanitarian missions.

"As far as I am concerned, this will be a short ceremony at which Mr Mobutu is supposed to agree to leave, otherwise our forces now advancing on the route to Kinshasa will eject him," Mr Kabila said. "I am made to believe he [Mobutu] will cooperate with us and avoid a bloody confrontation for Kinshasa."

Asked about the date for their first face-to-face meeting, he said it would be in the next few days. *(Reuter)*

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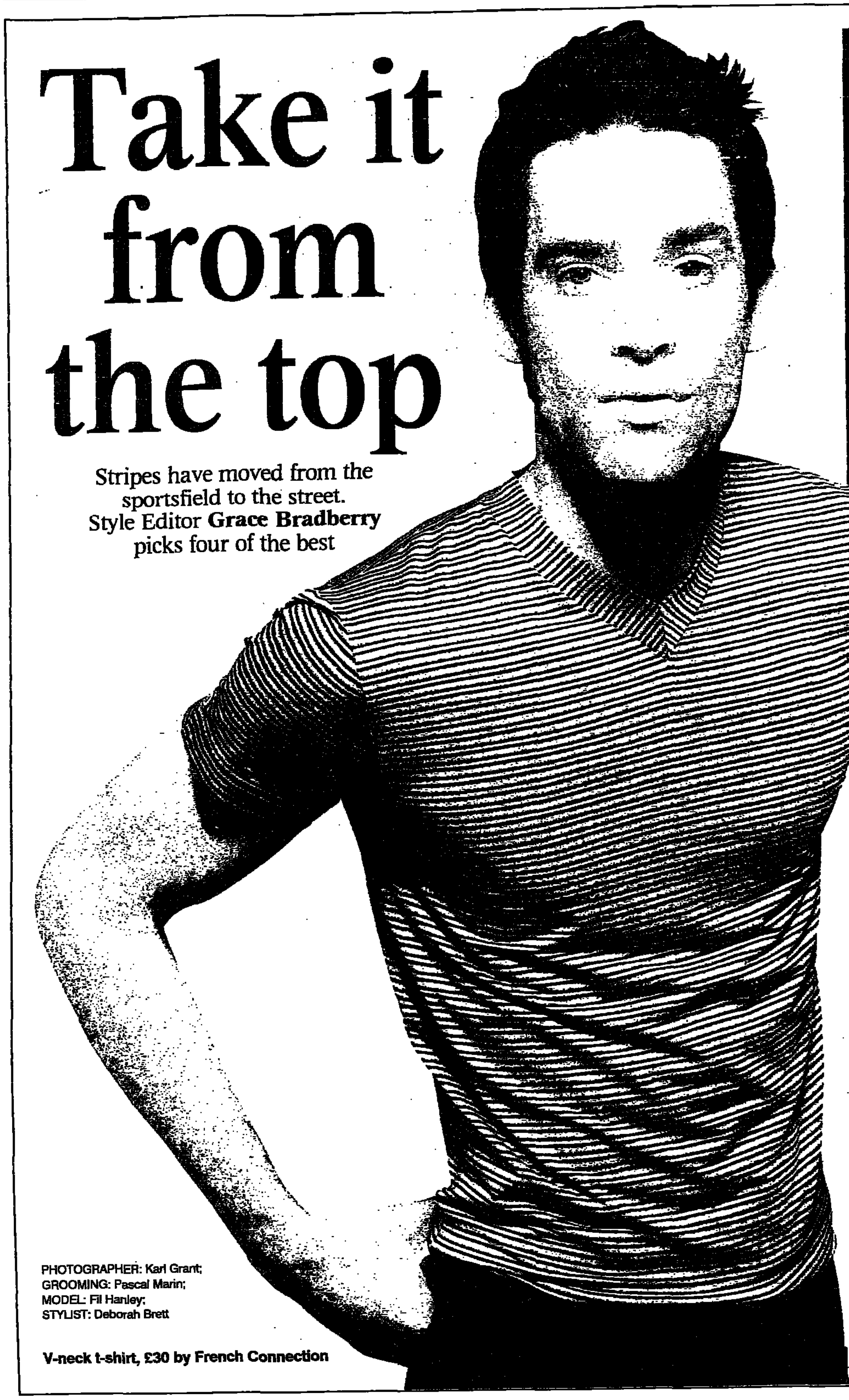
Take it from the top

Stripes have moved from the sportsfield to the street. Style Editor **Grace Bradberry** picks four of the best



PHOTOGRAPHER: Karl Grant;
GROOMING: Pascal Marin;
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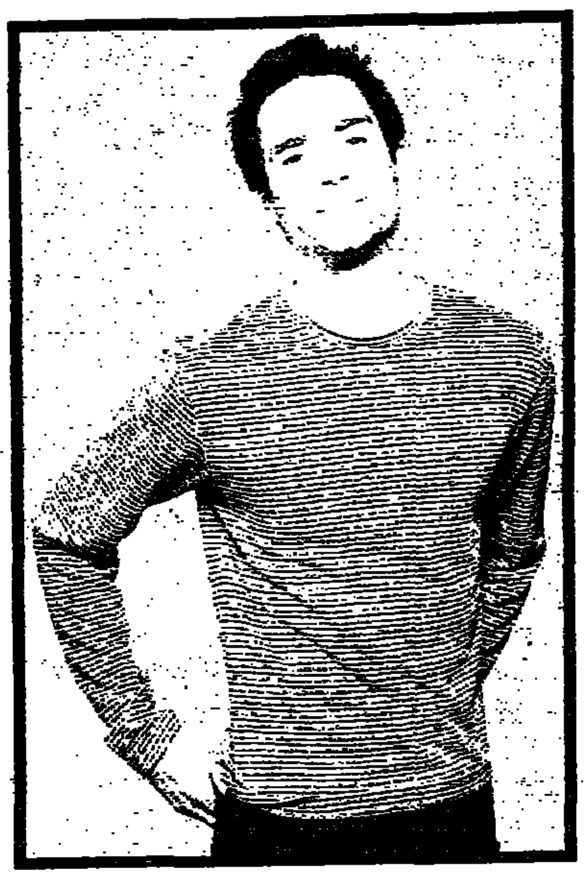
V-neck t-shirt, £30 by French Connection

V-neck jumper, £95 by Jigsaw



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Invest in securities

I lost an old friend the other day. It was a blue-and-white striped T-shirt of undistinguished provenance. but for five years it had been my favourite bit of clothing; the first thing I packed *when going away*, an infallible standby on a Bad Clothes day. Washed and washed again. it came up crisp and nautical. with an easy chic belying its plebian origins. until quite suddenly. little holes began to appear all over it.

Soon they joined up into big holes. and I had to admit that it was no longer wearable. As I consigned it to the duster drawer. I was surprised by my feelings of gloom. It felt like taking some much-loved old pet to be put down.

A couple of days later. fishing it out to polish the piano. it struck me that. in its lacy decrepitude, my T-shirt was a dead ringer for the repulsive security blanket from which my son was once inseparable — and that a security blanket was exactly what it had been for me.

> 'Brits are the real experts at the art of comfort clothes'

Every wardrobe needs security blankets. Not nasty velour leisurewear in which to slob out, but generous clothes. of forgiving cut and undemanding elegance. which one can slide into, knowing that they will give one a lift on a day when one is beset by that panicky feeling that one hasn't a thing to put on.

Security blankets tend to be soft, both in texture and structure — fluid, rather than tailored. made of jersey. cashmere, silk or mohair. in muted colours guaranteed not to be harsh on the complexion. For decades, the queen of SB designers was the late Jean Muir. whose sinuous. drooping confections of crepe and jersey looked like nothing at all on the hanger. but once on the person had the fairy godmother-like ability, or so it was claimed by such devotees as Joanna Lumley. Lady Thatcher and Dame Maggie Smith. to bestow verve. chic. elegance and self-confidence on any woman who might find herself temporarily low on these qualities.

On the other side of the Atlantic. entire fashion houses have prospered on the trend for clothing to cocoon the neurosis of modern living. With her easy. sculptural shapes and perennial taste for drape and wrap rather than nip and tuck. Donna Karan's whole output could be seen as one vast security blanket.

Still. it is Brits who remain the real experts at the art of wearing comfort clothes — perhaps because the very notion corresponds so closely to our national belief that there is something. well. not quite nice about Getting All Dressed Up.

Open any copy of *Paris Match*, and you can be certain to find Isabelle Adjani. Juliette Binoche or Carole Bouquet unveiling the innermost secrets of their hearts. while carefully nurturing the image of a star. Their photographs are immaculate — *coiffée. maquillée* and dressed in something instantly identifiable as bearing the name of a major couturier.

The equivalent encounter with their British counterparts is a very different matter. "She was huddled in a huge sweater. her face bare of make-up." the interviewer will invariably write. But as worn by those queens of Boheem chic. Emma Thompson. Helena Bonham Carter. Miranda Richardson *et al*, that huge sweater carries a subtext as complicated as the structuralist texts they all mastered at university. *I dress like this* because I am a strong. serious woman. it says. Furthermore. I may look as though I have just carried out a raid on Oxfam. but in fact this sweater cost £299 at Joseph.

Now. the desire to spend a month's housekeeping on a sweater that looks as though it has already been thoroughly broken in by an ancient farm labourer may seem perverse — it certainly infuriates men. But to anyone who understands the concept of a security blanket. it makes perfect sense. I had one myself. from John Rocha — a knee-length mohair confection in an attractive shade of mildew. I wore it every day for six months. and it rapidly became an object of derision among my colleagues. My sister. though. got it at once. "That isn't a jumper." she said. on first seeing it. "It's a house."

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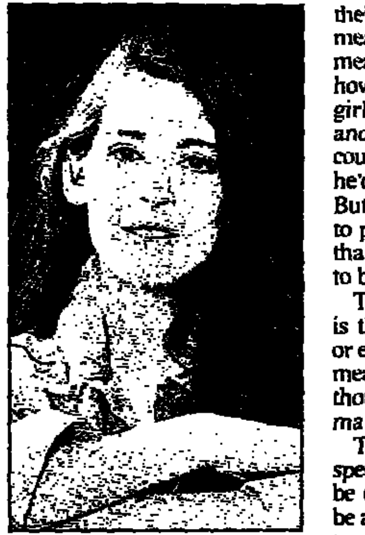
Sugared, Spiced, dangerous

The Spice Girls may be the stuff of little girls' fantasy, but their message needs to be challenged

Everyone goes on about the rudeness of contemporary society and the young, the decline of manners and the cult of coarseness, but it is indubitably the case that the real message behind popular culture is Do Not Offend.

Given all that talk about Girl Power, you'd think that now the Spice Girls have been attacked for performing the *haka* war dance on the grounds that this is a sacred ritual, and that only men are allowed to do it, they would at least put forward a political defence, even a phoney one. I do see that claiming it as a step forward for feminism, or a triumph for the sisterhood, might be going it a bit. But I'm not sure that coming over all breathy and tearful is quite what we need either.

But we are all required to be tolerant of intolerance these days and if a Maori is offended then there is evidently no explanation or exhortation — such as lighten up — that will suffice. Maybe it's because when I was the age of the average Spice Girl, punk was the dominant discordant note of pop culture, but it does seem strange to me that the most successful group of the moment has one aim: to seem nice.



Nigella Lawson

But then again, the Spice Girls are also described as "professional". And the term is thus used as a commendation. What is the world coming to when a pop group is meant to behave like a cluster of suburban office workers going up West clubbing for the night?

I have noticed that fellow performers — and most recently George Michael, as he discussed the setting up of his own record label — don't refer to the Spice Girls as musicians, or even performers, particularly, but as a "phenomenon".

I have no strong feelings one way or another about them, but it is surely to the point that to be a real fan you need to be under 14 or over 65. The rest of us can hardly be blamed for failing to see the charms of these *jeunes filles en fleur*, to quote a besotted Paul Johnson quoting Marcel Proust, oddly, on the subject. (Though who am I to talk, unsettled as I am to find myself writing about them now?) But the thing about phenomena is that they are fleeting. And they are not quite believable.

Actually, I do believe that people are genuinely keen on them — if they're short enough. I have evidence of this. If I walk my three-year-old daughter (who affects a *de haut en bas* interest) to nursery, I have to fight my way through a playground full of would-be Spice Girls working out their dance routines.

Apart from little girls (and the Paul Johnson contingent), who has any time for them at all? Have you ever met such a person? I am prepared to believe that there are those out of teenform bras who buy their records, just as I am prepared to believe there are people who own a Teasmaid. But in both cases, they are the stuff of cliché.

The reason that is given for the Spice Girls' mass popularity is the reason they do not, in fact, enjoy, among even young adults, mass popularity. It is their ordinariness that is meant to seduce: we are all meant to identify. And look, how clever! We can pick our girl — posh spice, sporty spice and so on. Roland Barthes couldn't have done it better if he'd set up the group himself. But the difficulty with seeming to present the ordinary girl is that which ordinary girl wants to be ordinary?

The point about stage icons is that they are not ordinary: or even if they are, they are not meant to seem so. This, though, is the modern dilemma about fame.

To be famous is to be special, but to be special is to be envied. Everyone wants to be a regular guy (and I use the term to denote the female, too), and to be famous for being just a regular guy is therefore supremely desirable. But to be special and ordinary at the same time is confusing — and confusing, because there is an essential contradiction that, in the end, even the dimmest fan can fathom. The only way to apologise for one's fame is to protest how little it is justified.

Naturally, sometimes those protesting have a point, but that is only part of the story. The dominating neurosis of the day (and one peculiarly exhibited by the modern campaigning politician, on a psychological though perhaps not psephological hiding to nothing) is the frenzied desire to please, to be impossibly acceptable to the varied multitude.

In these terms, the Spice Girls are a flattering enough concept, though the plodding literalness of the construct is amusing in the same way the completely, bafflingly po-faced literalness of choreography of the sadly defunct Pan's People was. Now there, while we're on the subject, was a girl-group with which one would want to identify. The stereotyping — the blonde, the brunette and so forth — was no less crude than that of the Spice Girls, but the actual personifications of these types were more desirable.

Little girls aspire to be big girls, and so for them the Spice Girls are the stuff of fantasy. But for women the same age, the Spice Girls are hardly aspirational figures. The PR reckoning behind this counts on everyone, therefore, not begrudging their fame, but rather it works in reverse: everyone resents it. Why them?

If there is an implicit double standard in the modern cult of celebrity and the contemporaneous championing of the ordinary, there is another, essentially more pernicious, contradiction in the presentation of sexuality. The protestations of Girl Power, the bosom-bulging basques and pelvis-thrusting, are ostensibly all about empowered, aggressive sexuality. But in fact what is being presented is that whiney, look-don't-touch form of self-absorbed titillation. In other words, they embody the dangerous belief that it is acceptable to appear sexually available, but unacceptable to be treated as sexually available. And please, don't write in to tell me that just because someone shows her cleavage she doesn't deserve to be molested. That goes without saying — but the sanctimonious packaging of female sexuality is all the same irksome, and more dangerous.

For some reason parents of pre-teen girls who copy such posturings go along with all this, wrongly seeing in it an innocent frolicsome girliness. This is the cream bun school of bottom wiggling: naughty but nice. That's how the Spice Girls have been happy to present themselves, too. They must not know what's hit them now someone's taken them seriously — even if it is some disgruntled Maori leader unacquainted with their oeuvre.

Innocent, frolicsome girliness — or propaganda with a pernicious sexual message? Nigella Lawson believes there are dangers and contradictions in the posturings of the Spice Girls

The man with the real lead in the polls

The Letters Editor of *The Times*, **Ivan Barnes**, wonders why he has been approached by the pollsters three times

"How can the opinion polls be so certain? I've never met anyone who was questioned by a pollster."

This is the sort of remark commonly heard at general election time. It is a view found among the droves of letters that the Editor of *The Times* is now receiving about the campaign.

Not only is extreme scepticism expressed about basing national projections on the opinions of so few, but many people seem to delight when the opinion polls, or some of them, end up with egg on their faces, as in 1992 and 1970. If, tomorrow, the first news from the real polls shows that the canvassers were wrong, there will surely be some cheers, and not just from Tories.

Some doubters scarcely believe that the polled sample exists. Doubt not. In the past few months I have been tackled three times by the pollsters.

Not long before John Major named the day, I was strolling in my Surrey suburb late one Friday morning when a woman looking for directions called to me from a parked car. It turned out that she was in the street she wanted. She explained that she worked for MORI (*The Times*'s choice of pollster, headed by the redoubtable Robert Worcester) and thus would be attempting to interview 16 people, of different "types", living in some ten named local streets.

It emerged that my house was in a street that had been picked and I readily agreed to be her first victim. I was going to be out for most of the rest of the day, so we conducted the canvass in her car.

Although she started with political questions, including the one we all know and love — "If there were a general election tomorrow, which party would you support?" — most of the survey was probably for commercial purposes.

Interviewee Ivan Barnes

There were two themes, the first concerning mostly large, well-known companies. Questions were along the lines of "How much do you know about the operations of [about eight companies listed]?" "Is it your perception that [each company] is — very efficient; efficient; inefficient; very inefficient?"

I found that I was spending half my time trying conscientiously to answer the questions and the other half trying to imagine what the purpose of all this could be. The pollster did not rush me but the questioning moved ahead quite briskly and, distracted as I was by my own speculations, I felt sure at one point that I had claimed "a little" knowledge of a company that did not exist. (Had the devious MORI backroom persons put in a booby trap? I imagined them chuckling over my answers and throwing them in the waste paper basket.)

'I began to see myself as a don't know, or even a don't care'

My conclusion was that one of the companies was worried about its public image but wanted MORI to make sure that things were sufficiently bad before it decided how to set about repairing the damage. I felt quietly confident that I had spotted the "guilty" party.

Similarly, there were a number of questions about South American countries. These (the questions, not the countries) were rather boring and seemed completely disconnected. I began to see myself as a don't know, or possibly a don't care. Although this was more difficult, I was fairly confident that I could spot the client country/tourist office involved. Again, I took this to be part of a name-recognition or image-building exercise.

But who knows? Bob Worcester's merry crew have doubtless filled the process with false trails, if not false companies, to lead the curious astray. The pollster was discretion itself. Whenever I asked questions of my own, she politely but firmly took us straight back to the MORI matter in hand. The whole thing took just over half an hour. It was all most enjoyable and we parted almost like old friends.

My second encounter with MORI was shortly before Easter. I had just moved to a house in Southwark, not far from London Bridge. As I was struggling with my key and an armful of books on the doorstep, I was approached by a polite, middle-aged man who wanted to canvass me.

Wonderful. With the election campaign well under way, here was my chance to play a part in the nation's political life; to contribute, in a sense, to Peter Riddell's authoritative front-page analysis in *The Times*. But it was not to be. I had to leave almost immediately to meet a train and the pollster confirmed what I already knew, that unless I could give him half an hour, I was no use to him. Oh, the disappointment of dashed hopes.

It was not much consolation just over two weeks ago when, on leaving the Army Museum in Chelsea, I was stopped (by MORI, of course) to provide information about my museum-going habits and my interest in individual military campaigns. This was interesting but it could hardly make up for being left out of the general election campaign.

The question remains as to why MORI keeps picking on me. One of my daughters says there must be a shortage of stooped, grumpy, balding 55 to 65-year-olds and that MORI pollsters have difficulty meeting their norm. I put it down to personal magnetism and charm. Or is Bob Worcester having me followed?

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Alan Coren

■ Up with the lark? No: a little bird rang me

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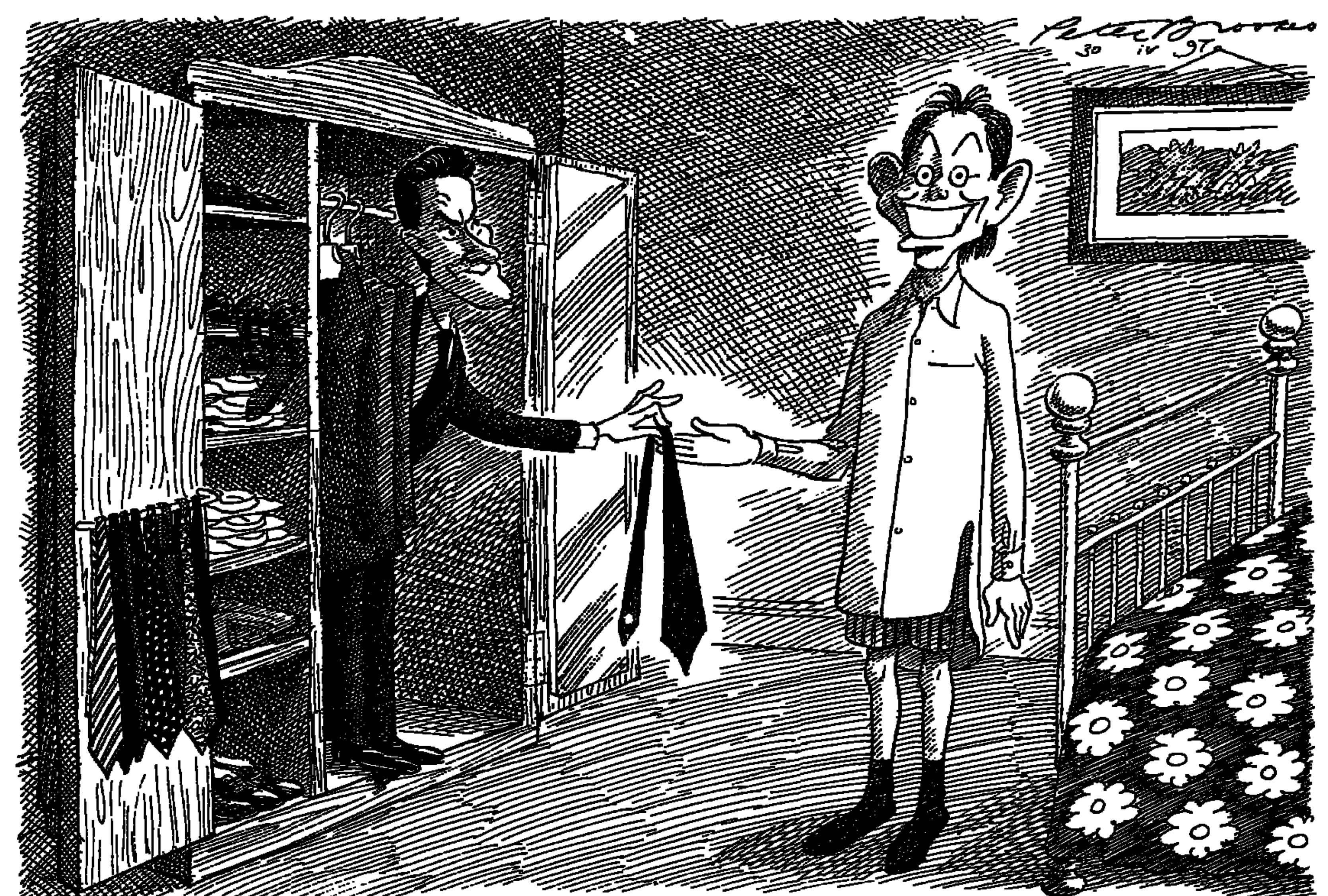
Yes, from tomorrow, each and every one of you, wherever you live, will be able to dial 0891 555178 and hear the dawn chorus. You will be able to lie snug in your cot, poke your keypad, and listen to chiff-chaff and willow-warbler, cuckoo and robin, blackbird and woodpecker, nightingale and tit, all at it like knives. You will, moreover, not be required to do this at dawn, for it is a round-the-clock service, and should you so wish you can listen to the dawn chorus prior to turning in, and thus get it out of the way in good time, or, if you have had a heavy night and slept late, you will be able to dial the dawn chorus at noon, having missed nothing.

For this unprecedented privilege, you will owe your heartfelt thanks to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, who set it up, and £1 to BT, who saw the RSPB coming. It is a small price to pay, especially as the RSPB also throws in a Mr Peter Holden, who tells you, as they severally trill, what each component of the dawn chorus is: I have heard a preview tape, and he points out, for example, that what has just exploded in the bush behind him is a wren, and that the great tit is the one which sounds like a bicycle pump, a thoughtful observation for listeners who might otherwise have grown concerned at the possibility that Mr Holden's Rudge had run over a broken jam-jar while he was pedalling bravely through the aubadal chill, waving his tape-recorder on all our behalves, in hot pursuit of a finch.

The tape has the further great virtue of lasting less than two minutes. It thus differs markedly from the real thing in — to pluck an example at random — Cricklewood, where, thanks to street lighting visible from Hale-Bopp and passing cars blasting the ghetto all night, dawn begins at sunset, so that, down here, disorientated tits may start pumping their tyres up at any time, and wrens go bang on an entirely capricious basis, never mind flocks of magpies which can bring light sleepers suddenly jack-knifing upright from their sacks at half-past three.

From tomorrow on, however, it will be possible to stick earplugs in, insulating you from all this racket, get a good night's kip, and phone the dawn chorus while you're shaving. Nor, I very much hope, will BT's caring enterprise stop there: how very pleasant it would be, in spring, to phone the Croaking Frogline, or in autumn, particularly after hunting goes to its inevitable doom, to dial a nostalgic two minutesworth of horn, hooves, baying and dismemberment. Which is not, of course, to ignore the ethnic multiplicity of Britain: I myself have many friends and neighbours, now branched poignantly far from their exotic roots, who would, I'm certain, relish the opportunity to ring some 0891 number for the sunset chorus of okapi padding down to the water-hole, the lion's roar, the hippo's yawn, the rhino's belch, while others yearn to hear again the crash of tigers through the Bengali undergrowth or the redolent note — not unlike a bicycle pump, actually — of an elderly koala regurgitating a eucalyptus leaf.

As for myself — and I speak here as both an animal lover and a BT shareholder — I should most like to be able to phone a dog. I have always wanted to keep a dog, but they're a frightful liability, they have to be schooled, they have to be walked, they have to be vetted, they have to be groomed, they bite people, they chase cats, they foul footpaths, they eat that ghastly jelloid muck you have to spoon out for them, and this strikes me as a great deal of trouble to go to just to enjoy their companionship. But having a dog on the other end of the phone whenever you wanted would be just the ticket: if you felt lonely, you could ring it up, it would bark, it would pant, it would bring sticks to the phone, you would say good boy, good dog, all that stuff, and there'd be no hairs on the furniture or coppers ringing up to say they'd just prised it off the A41. I shall give BT a bell right now. It pays to talk.



Election Call Question: "Why do you always wear Tory-blue ties?"
Blair: "Oh, come off it. I just take the first one that comes to hand..."

Nothing common or mean

As John Major goes to the scaffold with dignity, the era of Thatcherism closes

Simon Jenkins

At a public meeting a year ago, somebody asked Tony Blair what he would do after the election if he lost. Mr Blair was briefly nonplussed. He then said slowly and with evident sincerity, "I think I should be . . . very unhappy."

As of now, Mr Blair's happiness seems secure. The jury in the case of the Tory Government is filing back to a packed courtroom. The judge is fingering his black cap. In normal circumstances the condemned man would have time for a square meal, a confession and a last wish. But British general elections are brutal affairs. Death is instantaneous. The removal van will arrive on Friday and 18 years of British history will be pulped, with no one even sorting the dry waste from the wet. The last cry of the famous, "Speak well of me when I'm gone!" will die on John Major's lips amid the slamming of gates and the plaudits of another man's victory.

If only we could have nice elections. Rarely have two such decent men as Mr Major and Mr Blair faced each other at the hustings — and been obliged to speak so ill of each other. The past week's charges, that Labour would disunite the kingdom and the Tories would end the National Health Service, struck new lows in electoral mendacity. By Friday this will be as chaff in the wind. Unless something most strange happens, Mr Blair will be triumphant and a new age will dawn. So, on the final day of what historians will refer to as "Britain 1979-97", let us grant the condemned man his last wish. Let us speak well of him.

Mr Major's weaknesses have always concealed his strengths. No political leader since the war was dealt a tougher hand on taking office. After Margaret Thatcher's assassination in November 1990, he was charged by his colleagues only to be different. I recall a Cabinet minister, the blood still wet on his hands, crying that enough was enough. The revolution needed a rest. The party must consolidate. Mr Major was the candidate of the whips' office, of the soft option. Ministers longed to enter the Cabinet room without feeling sick in their stomachs.

When Margaret Thatcher said that Mr Major was her anointed, that he was "pure gold", I shuddered for him. She was not just bequeathing a vague -ism called Thatcherism; she left him with a war in Iraq, a poll tax, a devilish European treaty to negotiate, a fixed exchange rate for sterling and a 10-point deficit in the opinion polls. Mr Major quietly set about his business. He won the war. He rid himself of poll tax, secured the Maastricht opt-out clauses and brought his party against all odds to a fourth election victory in 1992. All this he effected with a dogged dignity. He also scrambled untidily out of the exchange-rate mechanism. This was despite a widening split in his party over Europe, which none of his predecessors had bridged. No feat of leadership could, I believe, have resolved the Tories' differences.

After the heady belligerence of Margaret Thatcher, the Tories seemed to welcome "dumbing down". Every politician takes on the colouring of his constituency. Mr Major brought from Huntingdon the sleepy conservatism of the dormitory shire. The mud of sleaze never stuck to Honest John. Neither friend nor foe quaked at his footstep. When he thundered, it came out as a whine. He was pathetically sensitive to media attack. But if humanity is a weakness in a politician, it can hardly be rated a crime.

Meanwhile Mr Major did precisely what Baroness Thatcher asked of him. He held her revolution on track. Indeed he pressed on through territory she had considered impassable. He went for the privatisation of rail and coal, of postal services and a swathe of defence industries. She had opposed them all. He was able to proceed by dulling the language of Thatcherism, and in doing so won the 1992 election. That victory ensured that the supply-side reforms of the 1980s endured into the 1990s. It entrenched the culture of competition and the stripping out of trade union protectionism. Had the Tories lost in 1992, Neil Kinnock's Labour Party would have undone much of the work of the 1987 Parliament. There would have been no further privatisations. Britain would have signed the social chapter of Maastricht.

Mr Major did not just mark time. Each Queen's Speech held new horrors for the Left and delights for the Right, as did the recent manifesto. The Cabinet plunged, careless of popularity, into the privatisation of pensions, childcare, old people's services and the London Underground. In education and penal policy I would put Mr Major to the right of Lady Thatcher. She was chary of offending the professions. She endorsed the Hurd-Clarke liberal era at the Home Office. Mr Major brushed it aside. Whitehall privatised anything that moved or stood still, the Stationery Office, the Naafi, Greenwich Palace, even Admiralty Arch. Fresh breezes blew through the unreconstructed public sector, including the law, the Armed Forces, Oxbridge and the BBC.

On Monday, British truck-drivers caught by the fishing blockade were being fined for driving in France over the weekend. Many Britons were incredulous. They did not realise that such commercial freedom is no longer allowed on the Continent. Trucks may not be driven at the weekend in France or Germany. Machinery cannot be worked through the night. Sit next to any continental businessman and he will comment on such "unfair" differences between British companies and comparable ones abroad, in airlines, printing, construction, entertainment and financial services. That difference is not just a difference between Britain now and Britain 1979. It is between Britain and the rest of Europe. The difference is rooted in policy, in over a decade of statute law reform and enforced competitiveness.

Mr Major was able to maintain the Thatcher legacy because she had already blazed the trail through as yet uncharted jungle. By 1990 she was exhausted and hesitant. She had lost the confidence of her Cabinet and was well adrift in the polls. She bitterly protested afterwards that "nobody ever voted me out of office". She was right. But had they done so, her going would have brought crashing down much that she had created.

The Major succession was one of the deftest manoeuvres of post-war Toryism. It secured for Thatcherism a further seven years, which were inconceivable if Margaret Thatcher herself had remained leader. But the Major succession did more than that. It drove Labour into a paroxysm of reform and eventual imitation. There is no greater compliment to the Thatcher-Major era than the thinness of today's Labour manifesto. Mr Blair's adoption of Tory spending targets, his retreat into the Eurosceptic lair, and his acceptance of changes in the welfare state, are unthinkable among social democrat parties elsewhere in Europe. They were unthinkable among Tories ten years ago, and among Labour five years ago. At last a Thatcherite can truly say, there is no alternative.

Margaret Thatcher reinterpreted Conservatism as a doctrine of strong, centralised government aimed at specific policy goals. She left as monolithic and, I believe, as intrusive a state sector as she inherited, albeit one of a very different character. "Never let anyone say I am *laissez-faire*," she once said. There was too much to do. She made Conservatism synonymous with radicalism, just as Labour drifted into an obsessive conservatism.

John Major sustained that radicalism both by his own actions in office and by magnetising new Labour to the cause. Mr Blair has been scrupulous in saying "Some things the Conservatives got right. We will not change them . . . What counts is what works." Hence Mr Major's bitterness this week at the charge that he would undermine the basic pension and healthcare. To keep Toryism radical without sacrificing its welfare credentials has been his goal. Britain has contrived to reform its state and private sectors and yet control the extravagances to which other democracies have fallen prey. Unlike America, it has done so without besmirching the name or the practice of liberalism. Mr Blair should note how this was done, and be grateful.

No prime minister gladly walks to the scaffold. But some do it with more dignity than others, and with more to their credit than is written up in lights. One such is John Major.

Wrinkles on Labour highbrows

The intelligentsia won't betray Blair, insists **Ben Pimlott**

Whatever has happened in this non-cerebral campaign to left-wing intellectuals? In the past, no election was complete without some egghead or other popping up to remind the redneck British electorate of its atavism. "A period of silence would be appreciated," Clement Attlee famously growled to Professor Harold Laski in a 1940s version of the new Labour doctrine of sewn-up lips.

In 1997, a period of silence is precisely what the intellectuals have provided. As Sir Alfred Sherman indicated (perhaps unintentionally) in yesterday's letters column, attempts to present them as disenchanted have fallen flat.

It is true that some have mixed feelings — as a survey of recent contributors to the *New Statesman* revealed. One commented that he will be backing Blair, but will need "a crate of Rennies to settle my stomach first". In general, however, there has been little rocking of the boat.

A cynic might say this is because the old left-wing intelligentsia no longer exists. Marxism has vanished, social democracy is in disarray without any faith to adhere to, so it is harder to accuse the leadership of heresy. Another explanation is the proliferation of Fabian-style pressure groups, which have absorbed much of the energy that once went into writing electoral suicide notes.

However, the main reason is undoubtedly a less-than-grudging expectancy. "The long, long night is over," in Edward Carpenter's words. "England is risen and the day is here." Intellectuals may not like all they see or don't see in the Labour manifesto. But at such a wondrous moment, quibbles are inappropriate.

There has certainly been a shift in the nature of intellectual support for Labour. In both 1945 and 1964 it was based on a belief in experimentation and "gradualism": people knew a Labour Government didn't herald Utopia, but they saw it as a step along the road. In those days, intellectuals talked progressively about taking a sluggish country in a radically new direction. Now there is a desire to bring a country in which radical absurdity has got out of hand back to sanity.

In the past, too, manifestos set out programmes. This one looks like a cross between a hymnal and a blank cheque. Yet blank cheques have their attractions. Students of 20th-century history are able to point out that the doctrine of the election "mandate" requires a government to carry out what it promises, not to refrain from doing what it doesn't. Thus many of Labour's *sotto voce* intellectuals argue that once the election is in the bag, a thousand flowers will bloom. The excitement and desire for change will be impossible to keep down. The new mood will be signalled, they predict, by a spontaneous singing of *The Red Flag* by MPs on the the day the new House of Commons assembles.

There is, of course, the allegation that some kinds of backing aren't to be taken at face value. "Kick out the Tories. Don't trust Blair. Vote Labour" says a leaflet advertising a Socialist Worker rally — much in the spirit of Lenin, who once told British comrades to back Labour "as a rope supports a hanged man". Today's intellectuals, however, are not contemplating a post-electoral execution. Rather, they see Mr Blair as a facilitator, and a Blair victory as a gateway. They are irritated by appeals for trust. But they are glad of the would-be premier's youth and energy, as well as of his proven effectiveness as party leader.

There are other things. In particular they are heartened by the priority given to education (while biting their lips over an insultingly inadequate paragraph on universities, where many of them work). They see the prospect of even modest constitutional reform as promising. They especially applaud Labour's openness on Europe (and deplore any trepidatious tendency to backtrack).

They long for an Herculean flushing of the governmental stable and they see new Labour as a kind of political Harpic. On this, they are unashamedly vengeful: they relish the Tory collapse, the end of smirking and strutting, the ensuing civil war. They hope, savagely, that somebody really awful, such as John Redwood, will become leader of the Conservative Party.

Intellectuals are a superior lot. They look glumly at the quality of some members of Labour's frontbench team. Yet they regard half-a-dozen or so members of the Shadow Cabinet hopefully, and they anticipate that the first reshuffle will see the promotion of bright up-and-comers. Their imaginations range widely. Just as the Attlee and Wilson Governments changed the social atmosphere in Britain, creating a climate in which new ideas thrived and old prejudices were banished forever, so they believe that a millennium Labour government will — perhaps despite itself — loosen constraints. The 1910s brought an acceptance of the State's social responsibility, the 1960s the permissive revolution. Neither was predicted; what, they wonder, will the 2000s bring?

They don't have the answer: they look forward to tomorrow night with the excitement of a child considering a gift that could be, who knows, a jack-in-the-box — offering something fun, startling, and barely imaginable. They will — this time — be more solidly behind Labour than at any election since 1964.

Next time is another matter. If new Labour turns out to be a new disappointment, they will be unforgiving.

Professor Pimlott is a former chairman of the Fabian Society and a biographer of Harold Wilson.

High fashion

DIARIES perhaps as sensational as those of Sir Roy Strong or Alan Clark could soon be on display in Britain's bookshops. The journals of the late fashion designer Ossie Clark are likely to be published, thanks to the persuasive power of David Hockney.

Clark, who was fatally stabbed by his male lover last August, had been assiduous at keeping his diaries since the mid 1950s. He had designed special pockets in his tweed jackets so as to carry a jotting book at all times, and at parties he would invite inebriated friends to make contributions.

More than a dozen volumes, chronicling intimate secrets of such friends from the 1960s as Mick Jagger, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Britt Eckland, Brigitte Bardot, Andy Warhol and Hockney himself, are owned by Clark's eldest son, Albert, a head chef in west London.

Albert and his close family had decided not to publish, even though Bloomsbury had been negotiating with Clark before he died. They felt that the details of the break-up of the designer's marriage to Albert's mother, Celia Birtwell, were too explicit for public gaze. But Albert has just returned from Los Angeles where he stayed with Hockney, whose portrait of Clark and Celia hangs in the Tate Gallery. "He reminded me that my father always wanted them published," he says. "I'm going to read them again, and so long as they contain nothing too compromising to my family, I'll be selling to the highest bidder. I'm looking for offers in the region of £100,000. Nothing less."

Hockney, and his portrait of the designer Ossie Clark

That's Life

LORD HADEN-GUEST'S bibulous brother Anthony has been holding a succession of New York parties to plug his book *The Last Party*. One was held at Life, a trendy Manhattan club, where the management laid on a white charger to evoke the horse that Bianca Jagger once rode into a 1970s discotheque. Haden-Guest, squinting uncertainly at the nag, temporarily lost his bearings and believed himself to be in the saddling enclosure at Goodwood rather than in some late-night downtown bar.

With a bow-legged gait that would not have done a disservice to Lester Piggott, Haden-Guest approached the horse and attempted to mount it — only to be prevented at the last minute from doing so by minders (of the animal), who feared that he might slip out of the saddle and sue for damages. Nonsense, of course: H-G was so well-oiled that he would hardly have felt a fall.

THE TIMES DIARY

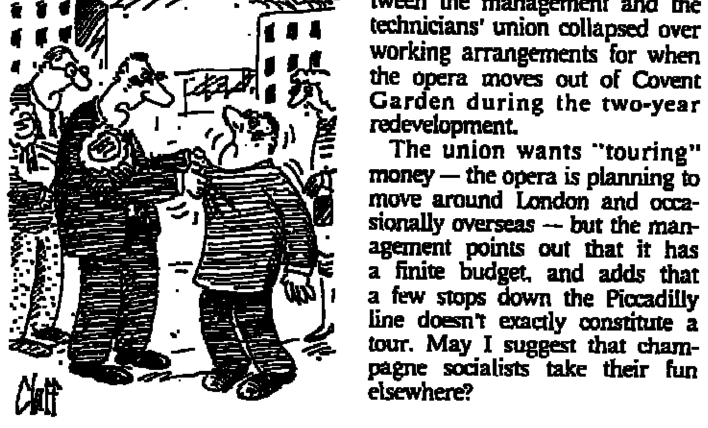
Runneth over

WITH sleaze flying about by the bucketload, Douglas Hurd is the sort of staunch figure to remind Conservative voters of the decency with which politicians once conducted their campaigns.

Nobody could have been more welcome at the Eagle Vaults pub in the constituency of Witney, Oxfordshire, than the former Foreign Secretary, who is standing down as the MP there after 14 years.

Hurd sauntered in with 12 supporters, ordered coffee and biscuits for the lot of them and then moved on again accompanied by his mob. Not a thought for the bill of £9.10. "I just couldn't believe it," said Brad Berridge, 24, the assistant manager. "They drank their coffee then strolled out." Only after a complaint was made to the local Conservative office did Hurd's replacement as Tory candidate, Shaun Woodward, turn up to pay — two days late.

● *An improbable inspiration for John Major comes in the form of the 1950s screen hero, Flash Gordon. The Prime Minister's warning on Monday that there were "only 72 hours left to save the UK," has the melodramatic ring of Flash's famous screen-cry, "Only 72 hours left to save the world".*



"What do you mean, you don't know?"

Inoperative

COULD this be the first class-conflict to trouble brother Blair and his new Labour government? The black-tied ranks of the Royal Opera House appear to have irreconcilable differences with the workers backstage.

Yesterday, the negotiations between the management and the technicians' union collapsed over working arrangements for when the opera moves out of Covent Garden during the two-year redevelopment.

The union wants "touring" money — the opera is planning to move around London and occasionally overseas — but the management points out that it has a finite budget, and adds that a few stops down the Piccadilly line doesn't exactly constitute a tour. May I suggest that champagne socialists take their fun elsewhere?

P·H·S

هكذا من الاصل

INVISIBLE ELECTION

The other ballot that is taking place tomorrow

Whatever else may be the legacy of the Conservatives 18-year tenure, few would be satisfied with the state of local government. The combination of a Treasury intent on absolute command of public spending and Margaret Thatcher's determination to deal with certain hard-left Labour administrations has left local democracy in a sorry condition. The sledgehammer of Whitehall control may have cracked some pseudo-Marxist nuts but has unhinged the balance between centre and periphery in the process.

Tomorrow most English voters will receive two ballot papers at their polling station. They could be forgiven for expressing surprise. The fate of 3,213 council seats will be contested. In most places this election will be fought on radically redrawn boundaries. Many counties have been reorganised: urban areas such as Derby, Leicester, and Southampton have been separated from the rest of their counties. As of 1998 they will become independent, unitary, authorities. The remaining rural and suburban components will continue much as before. This will also be news to much of the electorate.

National politicians determined that local boundaries needed modification. In Scotland and Wales, Whitehall decided that a single tier of government was the optimal solution. In England a different strategy was adopted. A local government commission emerged with the mission of consultation and then recommendation. The Government had thought that its creature would support the widespread introduction of unitary authorities here as well. To the irritation of all concerned at the Department of the Environment, opinion at the grassroots was actually solicited and sometimes accepted. The final outcome was a complex mixture of alternative systems. That mosaic encounters the electorate tomorrow.

This has been the third time in 25 years that a Conservative Prime Minister has accepted responsibility for the structure of local government. Edward Heath destroyed a century of tradition, abolished historic counties and moved around their borders, in pursuit of the "perfect" size of local unit. Margaret Thatcher dismissed the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties because she did not care for the likes of Ken Livingstone. Now John Major has had his turn. Some of the new inventions will be more popular than their predecessors. Others will be alien to their residents. All the new authorities will raise barely 20 per cent of their own revenues. Even then, those councils will face numerous restrictions on how such money is spent.

A campaign conducted on boundaries largely chosen elsewhere, for the right to distribute funds on a formula largely designed elsewhere, was always unlikely to inspire mass attention. In recent local elections turnout has fallen below 40 per cent. With a general election this year, participation will be higher but profile even lower. Tomorrow's council contests have been rendered invisible. Despite the fact that practical decisions on crime, education, and social services must be taken by local politicians, the national parties have had no qualms about co-opting all three areas as private fiefdoms. It is assumed that to the victor goes the spoils of local democracy.

The Conservatives may now suffer for their own attitude. The devaluation of local government has dried up a source of party activists. The Tories have been hammered in four consecutive council elections. They will not field candidates in 10 per cent of all seats tomorrow: 16 per cent in the new unitary authorities. Labour will be represented in 97 per cent of cases. That badly diminished manpower and eroded local base may prove critical for parliamentary contenders. This alone should prompt them to reconsider their centralist instincts. If the Conservatives are evicted from office this week they will doubtless move swiftly to the leadership question. They would do well to consider the local democracy issue with equal intensity.

LICENCE TO MURDER

The EU shows its tolerance of Iranian terror

The European Union is to send its ambassadors back to Tehran barely a month after they were withdrawn in disgust at Iran's officially sanctioned murder of dissident Kurdish exiles in Berlin. At the same time the EU announced yesterday the formal suspension of its "critical dialogue" with Tehran, the expulsion of any remaining Iranian intelligence agents in Europe and an end to ministerial visits to and from Tehran. These pusillanimous measures include nothing about trade, make no demands that Iran drop the fatwa against Salman Rushdie. They are, as the International Rushdie Defence Committee declared, not even a slap on the wrist; they send a message that Iran can get away with murder in Europe.

The Government argues that returning the ambassadors to Iran does not necessarily imply a softening of the EU position. Envoys, it is said, can convey a sharper message, with greater authority, than their deputies. It is in Europe's interest that Iran should be left in no doubt about European anger at its underground war against exiles and support of terrorists. It is also important that all Europe's ambassadors act together, especially in the run-up to Iranian elections when voters should know how Europe views their Government. Greece, ever ready to take advantage when a question of principle is at stake, did not even withdraw its ambassador, while Britain did so years ago in protest at the fatwa and Iran's mistreatment of a British diplomat. The worst sign of European disunity would be for the envoys to go back in dribs and drabs, with Iran wooing each country in turn and being rewarded with an ambassador's return.

Britain also argues that the EU measures go further than several countries wanted. France was known to be unhappy with the blanket ban on ministerial visits, and wanted to make "technical" exceptions to allow senior trade officials to visit Iran. The French attempt to take advantage of the Iranian market is all too obvious, and several other countries opposed the tough line proposed by Britain and Germany. If a common EU foreign policy is to have any meaning, it must indeed be commonly agreed and observed. The new sanctions may be little more than inconvenient to Iran; but if fully observed by all 15, they do, nevertheless, send a message.

As so often, however, principle appears to have given way to national advantage. No European country supports trade sanctions against Iran because none trusts its neighbour to observe them. And with much of Europe still suffering unemployment and recession, it is all too clear that such fears are justified. This has bedevilled all attempts by the United States to formulate a coordinated Western response to Tehran's rogue regime. Yesterday's sanctions say nothing of Iranian compensation to the families killed, do little to clamp down on Iranians travelling abroad to stir up trouble, and have no real teeth to deter terrorism. Despite the Berlin judgment, Washington has far to go to convince Europe that Iran is still a threat to Western democracy.

CANADA HIGH

One Prime Minister facing a brighter future

The snap election that the Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, has called in Canada on June 2, 17 months before it is due, is likely to see the ruling Liberals swept back to power with his own authority enhanced. After years in the doldrums, the economy is booming, foreign investment is healthy and a generous budget has boosted the feel-good factor. The Opposition is weak and divided. Canada's international prestige, enhanced by its readiness to lead a multinational force to Zaire, is high. Most importantly, some of the fratricidal bitterness over Quebec separatism has begun to ebb as the province focuses on reviving its economy.

Mr Chrétien is, nevertheless, unlikely to achieve the landslide he won at the 1993 general election when the ruling Conservatives lost all but two of their seats, including that of Kim Campbell, the Prime Minister. The Tories' devastation was so complete that the party was forced to rebuild its policies, structures and morale. Bolstered by a strong performance in some provinces, especially Ontario, and under new leadership, they are now running at about 18 per cent in the polls. The two main opposition parties now represented in Parliament, the Bloc Québécois and Reform Party, are both regional, strong in the West and in Quebec respectively but representing sectional interests and unlikely to extend their vote.

The Liberals cannot afford complacency. Six months ago their popularity rating was 67 per cent; now it is around 48 per cent. The main reason is that unemployment remains stubbornly high at 9 per cent and few can say that they are better off now than in 1993. Canadians are demanding; polls show that they trust their Government more than any other developed country, and appear naively bruised if it does not deliver what it promised. Since coming to power Mr Chrétien has backtracked on several campaign pledges and stolen many of the Tories' clothes — a tactic familiar in Europe but one that Canadians still regard as dishonourable.

Canada also has difficulty in recognising its own achievements. The twin burdens of constant comparison with the American giant next door and the need to readjust formerly unequal relations between anglophones and francophones have overshadowed any pride in the country's Scandinavian-style society. The continuing uncertainty over Quebec has inhibited all Ottawa's attempts to foster a sense of nationhood and has paralysed much of the Federal Government's normal business.

On this divisive issue, however, Mr Chrétien can claim success. Shaken by the near victory of the independence referendum, the Federal Government has stepped up the pace of devolution and embarked on an energetic campaign to persuade Quebec that as a "distinct society" it has more to gain within Canada than outside. This will not satisfy many francophones, and the abrasive West would happily cast the province adrift. But for the first time in a generation, the election will not be about Canada's Constitution or its possible break-up. That is, in itself, a measure of Mr Chrétien's achievement.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Labour funding for cancer care

From Professor D. J. Kerr

Sir, Dr Sandy Macara, Chairman of the British Medical Association, is surely wrong to deride Labour's pledge to spend £100 million in reducing NHS waiting lists (report, April 18). If this involvement was scattered across the NHS I would agree that it would be lost without trace; but Labour plans to focus on cancer services.

A poll recently undertaken by Birmingham Health Authority of residents in its area, one of the largest in the UK, demonstrated that cancer, still a stigmatising illness, is the number-one health priority for every age group of those polled. It is also well recognised that there are large variations in cancer survival, depending upon where you live, and consequently in the delivery of cancer services.

An NHS fragmented into a series of warring city-states, so-called trusts, militates against the possibility of promoting the sort of seamless, quality care to take us out of the lower divisions of Europe's cancer survival league.

Labour will promote a hub-and-spoke model, linking cancer centres and units in district general hospitals, ensuring inter-trust collaboration and improving the homogeneity of cancer care by multidisciplinary teams of health professionals. The party has made a commitment of new, earmarked funds which will be devolved to the regions to help pump-prime this process.

Ten million pounds, to be added to an existing allocation of £30 million, spent on the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, will not immediately solve the problem. However, those of us charged regionally and nationally with the task of implementing improved delivery of cancer care welcome this focused and strategic investment in the nation's health.

The hub-and-spoke model could be a paradigm for improving other aspects of healthcare and an important step towards renationalising the NHS.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID KERR
(Clinical Director),
CRC Institute for Cancer Studies,
University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT.
April 22.

Election 97

From Lord Rix, Chairman of Mencap

Sir, Matthew Parris, writing on sectors of society which have not been considered throughout the election campaign ("People in search of a party", April 25) singles out "the poor and the public sector". I would add disabled people.

At least 1.2 million people have learning disabilities and a further 4.8 million have disabilities of other kinds. With so many marginal seats it is worth reminding the politicians that these seats could be swung by the thousands of votes of disabled people and their families.

The Disability Discrimination Act, introduced last December, was intended as a move towards civil rights, as the Community Care Act was towards good community care. Instead there seems to be a steady erosion in rights for people with disabilities, with legislation which had seemed positive being negatively interpreted.

Candidates who offer to make the hope of wholehearted community care a reality could be amazed at their support on Thursday.

Yours etc,
BRIAN RIX,
Chairman, Mencap,
Mencap National Centre,
123 Golden Lane, EC1.
April 25.

From Mr Neil Moore

Sir, You published a letter from a group of former Tories who have defected to the Liberal Democrats (April 28). I write as a lifelong Liberal who is moving the other way and expects to vote Conservative for the first time ever on May 1.

I shall be voting for John Major, not for the fractious, squabbling party that has let him down. He has presided over the healthiest UK economy that I can remember. He is pragmatically but not neurotically Eurosceptic. Perhaps, above all, he stands for a principle — the individual's freedom of choice — which too many Liberal Democrats seem to have forgotten, not least in education.

I believe that Mr Major has fought an honest campaign and offers the best chance of preserving traditional liberal values.

Yours etc,
NEIL MOORE,
26 Lower Castle Road,
St Mawes, Cornwall.
April 29.

From Mr Denis Christian

Sir, When two of the three major players in an election are purveying a similar product, is it not rather silly to describe the third option as a "wasted vote"?

Yours faithfully,
DENIS CHRISTIAN,
2 Chichester Place,
Kemp Town,
Brighton, East Sussex.
April 28.

Tactical voting for Eurosceptics

From the Chairman of the European Movement — United Kingdom

Sir, You urge readers, in effect, to vote against supporters of the European Movement in the general election ("The good Eurosceptic's guide to making the most of a tactical vote", April 28, later editions; leading article, April 29). May I respond by saying that the backing courageously given to the European Movement by colleagues in all parties is motivated by a desire to see a strong Britain leading a strong Europe. Contrary to fears stirred up by Eurosceptics, Britain's independence is not at stake. However, our prosperity and influence would be at risk should we become semi-detached from Europe.

This threat has come about because people have wallowed in anti-EU rhetoric instead of looking at the reality of what EU membership means — access to the world's largest single market, 3.5 million jobs linked to exports to the EU, inward investment which companies like Toyota and Siemens have clearly indicated to be in jeopardy if Britain turns its back on Europe.

In the early 1980s, I stayed in the Labour Party, opposed extremism and fought for a sensible policy on Europe until common sense prevailed. In the same spirit, I shall remain a *Times* reader.

Yours sincerely,
GILES RADICE,
Chairman, European Movement — United Kingdom,
Dean Bradley House,
52 Horseferry Road, SW1.
April 29.

From Mr Michael Hutchings

Sir, Unlike the jingoistic minority who want nothing of Europe in any form, vast numbers of us desperately want the UK to get back to playing its full part in the EU as soon as possible. We have already lost ground at the negotiating table because the Government has been distracted by party squabbling. Most of the people I meet in the rest of Europe do not revel in our disarray; they still want our full involvement.

The EU needs to be strong and unified in order to ensure that we continue to live in the relatively peaceful and prosperous society that we have enjoyed during the 24 years of our membership. That seems to me a more concrete definition of sovereignty than the colour of my passport.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HUTCHINGS
(Consultant on EU law),
76 Manville Road, SW17.
April 29.

From Dr David Fleming

Sir, The trouble with the Europe debate is that the labels have somehow got switched onto the wrong bottles. Multiple currencies stand for a healthy economic system whose members can expect to trade with each other indefinitely. Single currency means lack of flexibility which, in economics as in engineering and personal relationships, will lead to collapse.

Anyone who is "pro-Europe" should therefore argue against a single currency. It is precisely because Europe matters so much that there must be that flexibility. It is tragic to see the people who are opposed to a single currency being described as "antis"; it is they who are the real Europeans.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FLEMING,
104 South Hill Park,
Hampstead, NW3.
April 29.

From Mr Julian Williams

Sir, Mr Major had his opportunity to "save the union" (report, April 29), instead he chose integration into a federal Europe.

Since 1992 he has bludgeoned the Maastricht treaty through Parliament and handed over much of the UK's shared democratic heritage to an unelected and unaccountable bureaucracy in another country.

He should not complain that many Scots now want their own regional forum (independence is a misnomer) with direct access to the halls and backrooms of Brussels. After all this is where laws governing Scotland are now made, where Westminster's power is regularly overruled and where the UK's wealth increasingly goes to be redistributed.

Yours sincerely,
JULIAN WILLIAMS,
95e Hornsey Lane, N6.
April 29.

From Mr P. P. Gardner

Sir, By urging voters to support Eurosceptic candidates of the bigger parties you will only contribute to the continuation of their sell-out policies. Far better a million votes for the UKIP and the Referendum Party, even if no seats are won.

The only way to really scare a politician is to take his votes.

Yours faithfully,
PETER GARDNER
(Parliamentary Candidate for Oxford East, UK Independence Party),
78 St Marys Road, Oxford.
April 29.

The Norway fallacy

From Dr Neville March Hunnings

Sir, The example of Norway is continually paraded before us (for example, letter, April 23) as a *modus vivendi* which would allow us to have our European cake and eat it. It is false.

Norway is not outside the Common Market: it is an integral part of it. It is subject to all the rules in the EC Treaty and its directives and regulations on the manufacture and trade in goods and services, on the immigration of workers and the self-employed, on transport, employment, consumer protection, the environment, etc (except, notably, agriculture and fisheries). Its companies must obey the EC competition rules, which are actively enforced. Its courts are bound by community law as interpreted by the European Court in Luxembourg, either directly or through the preliminary rulings of the Efta court, also in Luxembourg.

If the UK left the EU it might indeed be able to join Norway in the European Economic Area (EEA). But in such a case it would, like Norway, still be bound by most of the rules and constraints (and reciprocal benefits) to which the Eurosceptics object. In return, we would be excluded from the EU's political negotiating processes, play no part in the drafting and adoption of new EU laws (which would nevertheless become binding on us, as they are on Norway) and, perhaps more importantly, be expelled from our inside seat (on the K.4 Committee) in the European fight against organised crime, etc.

The Norwegian EEA path is not an attractive one for Britain. The Swiss path may be more attractive but is not available. Throughout the EU the most virulent political swearword is and always has been "free trade area", usually preceded by the word "mere". It is inconceivable that anyone in the EU would ever accept any UK free trade access outside the EEA, ie, without the UK being legally bound by the EU's decision-making.

If we wish to extricate ourselves from the law of the European Union, the only way is by *complete* withdrawal. We could then try to use our diplomatic muscle (if any); but we would be in the same position as Brazil or India or Australia or Canada. There is no middle way.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE MARCH HUNNINGS
(Editor, *Common Market Law Reports*, 1964-94),
11 Russell Hill, Purley, Surrey.

Finish your veg

From Mrs Kathleen Boothman

Sir, I discussed your report (April 22) on chocolate-flavoured carrots with my 10-year-old daughter.

She agreed that children were put off cooked vegetables by their texture rather than their taste: "At school it's the sogginess of the cabbage, the squashiness of the broccoli, the floppiness of the carrots that people hate." She added that when raw carrot sticks were served they were always eaten in a flash.

Doesn't this suggest an alternative approach to the problem of vegetable-rejecting children? Quite a number of vegetables can be eaten raw. These are generally better for the teeth and digestion and — provided they are fresh — retain more of their vitamin content.

Yours faithfully,
K. BOOTHMAN,
35 The Park,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

From Professor J. M. Thoday

Sir, Why don't they sell carrot-flavoured carrots?

Yours sincerely,
J. M. THODAY,
7 Clarkson Road, Cambridge.
April 22.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

GBS's classics

From Mr John Coleby

Sir, Sir Peter Hall (letter, April 21) and Barbara Smoker (April 24) criticise the actions of the Society of Authors as literary agent for the Shaw estate. The society is duty bound to follow the instructions of the trustees of the estate and its main beneficiaries: it can advise on but not decide matters it then has to negotiate.

It is easy but unfair to blame the agent for the decisions of a principal. In 1932, writing in the society's journal, *The Author*, Shaw himself stated that it was safer to leave off one's breastplate than one's backplate when battling for authors' rights.

After all it is possible for the impresario, Duncan Weldon, to sublicence rights which he holds in a particular play, and which if all parties agree, could be a nice little earner for him into the bargain.

The National Theatre in Sir Peter's day still owned the English stage rights in *Guys and Dolls*, as Lord Olivier had long had a yen to appear as Nathan Detroit. It was left to Sir Richard Eyre to rescue that classic in 1982, for the benefit of us all.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COLEBY
(Clerk, Society of Authors, 1970-76; Rights Manager, National Theatre, 1976-80),
The Cedars,
Crondall, Farnham, Surrey.
April 24.

No consensus on drink law reform

From Honorary Alderman Simon Cocksedge

Sir, The Chairman of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra) and others state that "the time has come for a new liquor licensing Act" (letter, April 22) but they should ask our politicians to justify why there should be any licensing legislation at all.

What role does the State play in telling us where we may buy or drink alcohol? Surely the market and the individual's wishes are a better regulator of the provision and consumption of alcohol than any legislation.

Yours sincerely,
SIMON COCKSEDGE,
24 Amberley Gardens, Bedford.

From Mr George Thompson Brake

Sir, Few people who have studied the development of licensing legislation and its administration will agree that a new licensing Act is needed. The "permitted hours" brought in during the First World War have gone: the legal drinking age has been reduced from 21 to 18; children are now allowed on premises where provision is made for them; retailing of liquor is no longer confined to public houses and licensed clubs, nor are magistrates required to take account of "need" in considering applications for licences.

Apart from restrictions imposed by legislation, the licensed trade has made public houses more acceptable to families, providing restaurants and attractive menus. Increasing use of identity cards for young people has helped to discourage rowdy elements.

In my experience it is not true to say "the police and magistrates support reform", if by that is meant further relaxation. Police opposition to granting further licences in vulnerable areas indicates their concern for public order.

Some of the recommendations in the early Seventies by the Erroll committee on licensing and also by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission would have created a free for all. Is this what Camra and others are advocating?

Yours faithfully,
G. THOMPSON BRAKE
(Co-author, *Drink in Great Britain, 1900 to 1979*, Edsall, 1980),
43 Florence Gardens,
Hadleigh, Benfleet, Essex.
April 25.

Safety in numbers

From Mr P. S. H. Lawrence

Sir, The three women in a boat shown in your 1895 photograph (report, "One vote prevents male dons joining all-woman college", April 24) were only playing for safety.

My copy of the *Memorandum on the conduct & discipline of junior members of the University*, Oxford 1932, rules that

> Men and Women Undergraduates may not go on the river or for motor rides together, unless each Woman Undergraduate has previously obtained leave from the Principal of her College and there are at least two women in the party.

Yours faithfully,
PETER LAWRENCE,
Simeons, Little Milton, Oxford.
April 24.

Victory anthem?

From the Organist of Hereford Cathedral

Sir, I am glad that the music for Evensong on election day is coming along so nicely (letters, April 22, 23, 24 and 28) but I fear I cannot find much in the daily psalms to encourage either Mr Major or Mr Blair. On the contrary, the psalmist on the seventh evening of the month is quite specific: "but the righteous is merciful and liberal" (Psalm xxxvii, 21).

Yours faithfully,
ROY MASSEY,
1 College Cloisters,
Cathedral Close, Hereford.
April 28.

From Mr Hugh Stephenson

Sir, Many years ago, when I was at school, the general election day hymn chosen for morning assembly was *Hymns Ancient & Modern* number 738 — *Come, labour on!* The headmaster was thought to have had radical leanings.

The Conservatives won the election on that occasion. So much for dedicated behest. Perhaps someone thought His name was being taken in vain?

Yours sincerely,
HUGH STEPHENSON,
7 Westbury Avenue,
Claygate, Esher, Surrey.
April 28.

From Mr A. Osbaldiston

Sir, A clergyman, when asked which party he was going to vote for, replied that a man in his position could not declare his politics.

However, he added, if the Tories win the opening hymn on Sunday will be *Now thank we all our God*: if Labour wins, *O God our help in ages past* and, should the Liberal Democrats win, then it will be *God moves in a mysterious way*.

Yours sincerely,
A. OSBALDISTON,
Kinder, Pinkham Lane,
Cleobury Mortimer, Worcestershire.
April 29.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 29: Mr David Dain was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Mrs Dain was also received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Mr Ma Zhengang was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the People's Republic of China to the Court of St James's.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia and Mrs Gardom were received by Her Majesty.

Mr Justice Neuberger was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Lady Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 29: The Princess Royal, President, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening attended the Fiftieth Anniversary Awards at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 29: The Lady Margaret Colville has succeeded Lady Penn as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 29: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting of The Prince's Council at 10 Buckingham Gate, London SW1.

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a Reception at St James's Palace for the Prayer Book Society's Twenty Fifth Anniversary.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, this evening attended *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Lyceum Theatre, London WC1.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 29: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning arrived at London Heathrow airport from Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron UK Committee for UNICEF, this morning visited the Hlatlolanang Project, Hlatlolanang, Northern Province, South Africa.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
April 29: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon to undertake engagements in Maryland, United States of America. Captain Neil Blair, RN, is in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will inspect and review The King's Troop, RHA, in Regent's Park, at 11.30 and will lunch at the barracks afterwards.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron, will present the Association for Science Education Certificates to the 1997 Science Scholars and attend a dinner at the Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, at 6.40.

The Prince of Wales, as President, The Prince of Wales Business Leader's Forum, will attend a seminar and reception for European members at St James's Palace at noon.

The Princess Royal will present the awards at the Schools Curriculum Award Ceremony, the Barbican, 10.55; and as Patron, International Health Exchange, will attend the annual meeting at the Royal College of Nursing, at 5.15.

Birthdays today

The King of Sweden celebrates his 51st birthday today.

Sir James Adams, diplomat, 65; Mr Peter Ahrends, architect, 64; Dr G.E. Aylmer, former Master, St Peter's College, Oxford, 71; Mrs Janey Buchan, former MEP, 71; Mrs Barbara Calvert, QC, 71; Judge Sir Robin David, QC, 75; Mr Dickie Davies, sports commentator, 64; Lord Diamond, 90; Dame Isabel Graham-Bryce, former chairman, Oxford Regional Hospital Board, 95; Mr Leslie Grantham, actor, 51; Mr G.M. Guthrie, former chief executive, Mecca Leisure, 56; Mr Tony Harrison, poet, 60; Mr R.J.D. Hazell, director, Constitution Unit, 49; Mr Alfred Lomas, MEP, 69; Lord McIntosh of Haringey, 64; Mr Keith Povey, Chief Constable, Leicestershire, 54; Lord Sanderson of Bowden, 64; Professor Graham Upton, Vice-Chancellor designate, Oxford Brookes University, 53.

Dinners

Navy Board
Admiral Sir Jock Slater, First Sea Lord, presided at a Navy Board dinner held last night at Admiralty House to mark the retirement of Admiral Sir Hugo White, Vice-Admiral Sir Toby Frere and Rear-Admiral Fred Scourse and the retirement from the board of Rear-Admiral Jeremy Blackham.

Engineers' Company
Dr James Smith, Master of the Engineers' Company, assisted by Dr D.S. Mitchell, Senior Warden, and Dr L.J. Weaver, Junior Warden, presided at an installation dinner held last night at Clothworkers' Hall. After the dinner the President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers presented the Stephenson Cup to the Master to mark the 150th anniversary of the formation of the institution. Awards for engineering excellence and achievement were presented by the Master. Among those present were:

The Chief Royal Engineer, the Master of Signals, and Masters of the Drapers', Merchant Taylors', Pewterers', Plumbers', Woolmen's, Musicians', Turners', Paviors', Fanmakers', Scientific Instrument Makers', Lightmongers', Constructors', and Water Conservators' Companies.

Insurers' Company
Mr Peter Harris, Master of the Insurers' Company, was the host at a livery dinner held last night at the Mansion House. Among those present were:

Alderman Sir Brian and Lady Jenkins, Mr Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs Clive Martin, General Sir James and Lady Glover, the Chairman of Lloyd's and Lady Rowland, the President of the Chartered Insurance Institute, the President of the Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters, the President of the Insurance Institute of London, the Chairman of the British Insurance and Investment Brokers Association and the Masters of the Coopers', Actuaries' and Surveyors' Companies.

Rare begonia puts its heart into an outstanding display

GILL ALLEN

Rosie Harkness from the RHS and the heart-shaped leaves of a *Begonia chlorostica*

Gold medal winners beat the frosts

By Alan Toogood
Horticulture Correspondent

ALTHOUGH rhododendron blooms have been severely damaged by frost in many gardens, a high-quality display has scooped a gold medal at the Royal Horticultural Society's flower show at Westminster.

The exhibitors, Knap Hill and Slocock Nurseries, of Knaphill, Surrey, kept their show plants under glass for protection. The display includes many of their own hybrids plus a trio of new low-growing, very hardy cultivars from Belgium: "Thor", with large bell-shaped bright red flowers; "Nancy Evans", with heads of butter-yellow flowers from pink-tinged buds; and "Goldkrone", whose light yellow flowers have crimson speckling in the throat. All are rated first-class garden plants.

Scotts Clematis, of Lee, North Devon, have also secured a gold medal. Their display includes an unusual clematis from New Zealand: *Clematis cartmanii* "Joe", a slow-growing trailing kind with cascades of small white flowers, ideal for patio containers. Not totally hardy, it needs winter protection under glass.

An exhibit of stellar, angel, scented-leaved, regal and ivy-leaved pelargoniums has won a gold medal for Fir Trees Pelargonium Nursery, of Stokesley, Cleveland.

Bill Ash, of Loggerheads, Shropshire, an amateur grower of begonias and tropical aroids, has staged a comprehensive display of these plants, including several new introductions from Malaysia and America. *Begonia chlorostica* is outstanding with dark green heart-shaped leaves spotted and edged with light green, and the pink-spotted *B. malachostica* is also eyecatching. Mr Ash also carries out plant breeding on a small scale and one of his plants, *Anthurium* "Crystalline Velvet", takes pride of place and sports large deep green velvety leaves with broad silver veins.

Spring-flowering perennials and other plants are the mainstays of the show. Among those shown by Hopleys Plants, of Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, is a small collection of cerinthes, a genus which is all set to become popular. Sporting colourful tubular or bell-shaped flowers, they are ideal plants for a gravel garden and actually become naturalised in gravel drives.

Several competitions are being held with this show, which opened yesterday. The best specimen bloom in the Royal National Rose Society's competition for plants grown under glass is the old large-flowered "Piccadilly", shown by a leading prizewinner, Mr J.I.M. Naylor, of Leeds, West Yorkshire, who has also won the class for six specimen blooms of modern roses, again featuring "Piccadilly". Mr N.J. Chapman, of Canterbury, Kent, has won the main class for cluster-flowered roses, with the red cultivars "Trumpeter" and "Troilus".

Due to the recent damaging spring frosts, the RHS main rhododendron competition is poorly supported. High Beeches Gardens Conservation Trust, of Handcross, West Sussex, has won the Roza Stevenson challenge cup for best spray of a species, with mauve *Rhododendron oreotrephes*, and the class for six hybrids with "Roza Stevenson" (yellow), Loderi "King George" (blush), "Marie Curie" (red), "Susan" (mauve), "Loder's White" and "Earl of Athlone" (crimson). Mr B. Wright, of Crowborough, Sussex, has won the McLaren challenge cup for best truss of a species with *R. aberconwayi* (white, flecked crimson). The Loder challenge cup, for one truss of any hybrid, has been won by Mr Richard Gilbert, of Bodmin, Cornwall, with "Roza Stevenson".

In the open classes of the RHS late daffodil competition, Mr Brian S. Duncan, of Omagh, Northern Ireland, has won the class for 12 cultivars bred and raised by the exhibitor, one of which, an un-named red small-cupped, has been judged best bloom in the show. He has also won the Devonshire trophy for a further 12 cultivars.

The best vase of blooms in the RHS tulip competition is the pink Triumph or Mid-season "Douglas Bader", shown by Miss M. Charlwood, of Brighton, Sussex.

The show, in the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, is open today from 10am to 5pm.

Danes Hill School, Oxshott

Danes Hill School, Oxshott, Surrey, would be delighted to hear from former pupils who would be interested in receiving further information about the Danes Hill Golden Jubilee celebrations this summer. Please contact the Headmaster's Secretary on 01372 842346.

Luncheon

Institute of Energy
Sir Bob Reid, Chairman of London Electricity, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual luncheon and 70th anniversary of the formation of the Institute of Energy held yesterday at the Langham Hilton. Mr P.H. Johnson, president, was in the chair.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Jean Baptiste de la Salle, founder of the Christian Brothers, Rheims, 1651; Queen Mary II, reigned with King William III 1689-94, London, 1662; John Lubbock, 1st Baron Avebury, banker and scientist, London, 1834; Franz Lehár, composer, Komárom, Hungary, 1870; Jaroslav Hasek, novelist, Prague, 1883.

DEATHS: James Montgomery, poet and hymn writer, Sheffield, 1854; Edouard Manet, painter, Paris, 1883; Carl Rosa, violinist and founder of the opera company bearing his name, Paris, 1889; A.E. Housman, poet, Cambridge, 1936; Adolf Hitler, German dictator, Berlin, 1945; Sir Almroth Wright, bacteriologist, Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire, 1947.

The Republic of Hawaii ceded itself to the United States, 1900.

George Washington was inaugurated as the 1st American President, 1789.

The first Land Rover was exhibited at the Amsterdam Motor Show, 1948.

Saigon fell to the Vietcong and was renamed Ho Chi Minh City, 1975.

Church news

Prebendary Michael Hooper, Team Rector, Leominster Team Ministry, Rural Dean of Leominster, and a Prebend of Hereford Cathedral, in the diocese of Hereford, is to be Archdeacon of Hereford, succeeding the Venerable Leonard Moss, Archdeacon of Hereford, and Canon and Prebend of Hereford Cathedral, who is to retire August 6.

Latest wills

Freda Freemantle, of Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, left estate valued at £2,415,969 net.

She left £50,000 to the Parkinson's Disease Society; £25,000 to the RNIB; £12,500 to both the RNLI and Age Concern England.

Beryl George, of Falmouth, Cornwall, left estate valued at £1,421,558 net.

She left £70,000 to the Royal Academy of Music.

Esther Benabo, of London SW3, left estate valued at £1,056,176 net.

Lavender Mary Jean **Goddard-Wilson**, of London NW1, left estate valued at £1,041,747 net.

Nina Adele **Nash**, of Hatfield, Hertfordshire, left estate valued at £1,355,603 net.

She left shares in her residuary estate to Amnesty International British Section, and other charities.

Thomas Matson **Roberts**, of Dolgellau, Gwynedd, left estate valued at £1,208,861 net.

Memorial services

Mr George Mandl
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr George Mandl, paper manufacturer and former Master of the Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers, was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street.

Canon John Oates officiated. Mr Roy Fullick, Master of the Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers, said the bidding prayer. Mr Desmond Ryman read the lesson and Sir Edward Pickering read from Milton's *Areopagitica*. Mr Bryan Bateman, Director of Business and the Environment, Paper Federation, Mr Richard Harrison and Mr Harry Pollak gave addresses. Among others present were:

Mrs Mandl (widow), Dr Anita Jennings (sister), Mrs D Fox and Mrs Y Wyrsch (sisters-in-law), Mrs Alice Brunnberg, Mrs J Tonder, Mr Peter Manson, Mr Paul Manson and other members of the family.

Mr Vernon Sullivan (Under Warden, Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers) with Brigadier Denzil Sharp, Clerk, members of the the Court of Assistants and Livery; Mr R Melling (director, G.T. Mandl) with Mr A Harris (Four Stones Paper Mill), Mr W.J. Daniel, Mr W Faes, and other past and present members of staff; Mrs Gina Isaac (Society of Bookbinders), Mr Hugh Balston (Whatman), Mr Geoffrey Burditt (Paper Trade Gold Medal Club).

Mr Ron Parkin (National Paper Museum), Mr M Morley (Paper Association, Southern District), Mr T Spurgeon (Inveresk Paper), Mr John Paine (Paper Agents Association), Mr Michael Jones (Ernst and Young) and Mrs Jones, Mr Albi Rosenthal (Otto Haas), Miss Julia Rosenthal (A Rosenthal), Mr Frank Hermann (Bloomsbury Book Auctions), Mr G Pink (British Association of Paper Historians) with other members of the association.

Mr Brian Atwood (American TAPPI), Mr Russell Adams (Paper Agents Association), Mr Peter Guy (Wynkyn de Worde Soceity), Mr Tom Prifti (ARACRUZ), Dr R S Woof (Wordsworth Trust) and Mrs Woof, Mr Paul Crowson (Mills and Wood), Dr Stephen Row (Sotheby's) with Miss Susan Whatton and Miss Sarah Cooper; Mr Peter Ingram (Paper Publications).

Mrs Roy Fullick, Mrs Desmond Ryman, Mr and Mrs B T Coulton, Mr and Mrs W B Hodgson, Mr David Wyndham-Smith, Mr C T Rivington, Mr P T Rippon, Mr A F Thompson, Mr and Mrs W C Young, Mr M F Tollit, Mr Alan Brooker, Mr and Mrs P Cox, Captain Peter Hames, RN, Mr Trevor Turner, Mr Roger McNaughton, Mr and Mrs John Stitt, Miss Delphine Stephens, Mrs Mary Lewis, Mr and Mrs Peter Beck, Miss Helen Mark, Mr and Mrs H Gold, Mr and Mrs F Pollak, Mr and Mrs Barry Sutcliffe, Mr H Adler, Mr A Letts, Miss Robin Byers, Mr Michael Pelham, Mr E S Cormacey, Mr Brian and Dr Margaret Blunden, Mr A K Pollock, Mr and Mrs Peter Gwynn, Mr Bob Russell, Mr Peter Penke and many other friends and former colleagues.

Mr Frank Launder
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Frank Launder, screenwriter and film director, was held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated. Mr Gavin Launder, grandson, read the lesson and Mr John Davie read from the works of Edward Lear.

Mr Roy Boulting and Mr Ivor Herbert gave addresses. Ms Caroline Brown sang from Bach's *Bist Du bei mir* and an Afro-American spiritual. Among others present were:

Mrs Launder (widow), Mr and Mrs Ewan Launder (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Georgina Launder and Miss Aisling Launder (daughters), Mr and Mrs George Ogilvy (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Gavin Launder, Mr Kieron Launder and Mr and Mrs Adam Blake (grandchildren), Charlotte and Amy Launder (great grandchildren), Miss Janet Ogilvy, Mr and Mrs Gerard O'Farrell, Mr and Mrs Sean O'Farrell, Miss Peggy Launder, Mr and Mrs Jonathan O'Farrell, Mr Jamie Ogilvy.

Mr and Mrs Leslie Gilliat, Miss Amanda Gilliat, representatives of the Savage Club, *Movie Memories Magazine*, the Walton Theatre Collection and many other friends.

Service dinner

RAF Maintenance Group
Air Vice-Marshal R.H. Kyle, AOC Maintenance Units/Chief Executive Maintenance Group Defence Agency/Air Officer Maintenance attended at dinner held last night at RAF North Luffenham to mark his retirement from the Royal Air Force. Group Captain B.J. Benstead, Officer Commanding, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.A.N. Tomlin
and the Hon Susan Craig
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs C.S.N. Tomlin, of Binham, Norfolk, and Susan, daughter of Lord and Lady Craig of Radley.

Mr G.E.L. Lushington
and Miss T.N.J. Binns
The engagement is announced between Greville, second son of Sir John Lushington, Bt, and Lady Lushington, of Henham, Essex, and Tracey, only daughter of Mr and Mrs L.B. Binns, of Scissett, Yorkshire.

Mr J.M.R. Dodwell
and Miss I.J.L. Cadell
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr Richard Dodwell, of Oxney, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Frances Dodwell, of Godalming, Surrey, and Iona, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Cadell, of Burley, Hampshire.

Mr J.H. Hunter
and Miss H.E. Bentall
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Hunter, of Chelsea, London, and Holly, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Bentall, of Chobham, Surrey.

Mr N. McBurney
and Miss J.S. Bushell
The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs James McBurney, of Parkgate, South Wirral, Cheshire, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Bushell, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

Mr N.A. Milne
and Miss C.M.J. Heagerty
The engagement is announced between Nick, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Denis Milne, of Rudge Farm House, Marlborough, Wiltshire, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Heagerty, of Walstead Grange, Lindfield, West Sussex.

Captain Q.W.M. Naylor
and Miss S.R. Rowland
The engagement is announced between Captain Quentin Naylor, Royal Gurkha Rifles, second son of Mr and Mrs John Naylor, of Wrenbury, Cheshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Rowland, of East Molesey, Surrey.

Mr J.G. Pullan
and Miss K.M.F. Good
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Nigel Pullan, of Nutley, East Sussex, and Karina, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Good, of Stondon Massey, Essex.

Mr T. Rintoul
and Miss S.C. Percy
The engagement is announced between Toby, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Rintoul, of Edinburgh and London, and Sally, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs Ian Percy, of Edinburgh.

Marriage

Mr C.E. Banham
and Mrs A.M.P. Stewart
The marriage took place on April 26, 1997, at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt, Suffolk, between Mr Christopher Banham, of Snowdon House, Wickham Market, Suffolk, and Mrs Araminta Stewart, née Wallace.

Lecture

NADFAS
Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Chairman of English Heritage, delivered the second National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies lecture to the society at Kensington Town Hall yesterday. At the annual meeting held earlier Mrs Judith Thomas was elected chairman and Mrs Pamela Cohn, vice-chairman.

Knighthood

Mr Patrick Coghlin, QC
A Knighthood is to be conferred on Mr Patrick Coghlin, QC, on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court in Northern Ireland.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Though our sins testify against us, yet take action, Lord, for your own name's sake. Our disloyalties indeed are many; we have sinned against you. Jeremiah 14 : 7

BIRTHS

BUSHELL - On April 28th, to Clarissa (née Titcomb) and John, a son, Thomas James.

CURTIS - On April 6th, to Liz (née Brum) and Peter, a daughter, Chloe Alexandra Louise, a sister for Elena.

DILLON HATCHER - On 26th April, to Imogen and Niul, a son, Frederic Max, a brother for Patrick and Eleanor.

EXADACTYLOS - On April 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Diana and Philippos, a son, Alexandros Dimitrios.

GOUGH-ALLEN - On April 24th, to Dyane (née Herbert) and Michael, a daughter, Tessa Charlotte.

GUINNESS - On April 21st, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Claire (née Perry) and Ewan, a son, Aidan Diarmid.

HART - On April 23rd, to Sally-Ann (née Muir) and Adam, a son Giles Orlando Muir, a brother for Amelia.

HEDDERWICK - On 2nd April, to Luke and Ruth, a daughter, Harriet Alice.

LEATHAM - On April 24th, to Georgina (née Mounsey) and Richard, a son, Milo Charles Albert.

LINKLATER - On 22nd April, to Simon (Atyeo) and Sarah, a beautiful son, Henry Peter Atyeo, a brother for Rhoda, Flora and George.

LOCK - On April 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Laurence and Sally, a son, Christopher, a brother for Alexander.

PARAVANTSOS - On April 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Konstantia and Joseph, a beautiful daughter.

PARKUS - On April 22nd, at The Portland Hospital to Fredrika Sidoroff and Richard Parkus, a son.

SENGUPTA - On April 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Oli and Jay, a daughter, Anita, a sister for Roy.

SHIRES - On April 21st 1997, to Fiona (née Beckett) and Matthew, a daughter, Alice Margaret Anne.

TITCOMB - See Bushell.

BIRTHS

WALL - On 1st April 1997, to Catherine (née Everard) and William, a son, Charles William Henry Augustine, a brother for Olivia and Isabel.

WHITE WHEATLEY - On April 7th 1997, to Barbara and Andrew, a son, Max Sebastian Robert. Belvedere Grove, Wimbledon Village.

WOODROFFE - On April 23rd in London, to William and Catherine, a son.

DEATHS

ALDRIDGE - On Friday 25th April 1997 in a London nursing home in her 90th year. Margery (Maisie) Olive Mooring Aldridge L.R.C.M., eldest child of the late Harold and Margery Mooring Aldridge of Christchurch, sister of Eleanor, Rachel and Richard and the late William, also aunt of nieces and nephews. Funeral to be held at the United Reform Church, Millham Street, Christchurch on Friday 2nd May 1997 at 1 pm followed by burial in Christchurch Cemetery. Flowers to be sent to Barnes & Sons (Undertakers) Ltd., 112 Devonport Road, off Uxbridge Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 8NU, telephone (0181) 743-4312 by 9 am on Friday 2nd May. All enquiries to the Funeral Director.

BARRETT - Dorothy of St Ives, Ringwood, died suddenly but peacefully on St Georges Day. She will be sadly missed by her sisters and friends. Funeral Service at Ringwood Methodist Church, Wednesday 7th May at 2.30pm. Donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o J. Coombe, 103 Oakwood Crescent, Greenford, UB6 0RG.

BRIGHT - Suddenly at home on April 26th 1997 Dr. John Douglas Bright. Dearly loved by Dorothy, Kate and Will. Funeral Service at Ipswich Crematorium West Chapel on Wednesday May 7th at 12.30 pm. No flowers please but donations payable to either St Elizabeth Hospice or RSPB may be sent to Farthing, Singleton & Hastings, 650, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4PW.

DEATHS

BODILLY - On April 27th 1997 peacefully at Chypons, Newlyn, Penzance, Sir Jocelyn, former Chief Justice of the Solomon Islands, husband of the late Marquise de Verdieres and the late Marjorie (née Fogg). Funeral Service at Gulval Parish Church, Penzance, on Tuesday May 6th at 2 pm followed by cremation. Flowers or donations in his memory for St Julia's Hospice may be sent to Alfred Smith & Son F/D, 31 Clarence Street, Penzance.

BROWN - Lt. Col. Trevor Seth Brown OBE, Royal Regiment of Wales, on 28th April at Bronllys Hospital. Much loved husband of Heidi and loving father of Mark, Chris and Suzanne. Funeral Service at Brecon Cathedral Tuesday 6th May at 1.30 pm, followed by a private cremation service for family only. No flowers please. Donations may be sent to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Lincolns Inn Fields, London WC2.

COUTTS-SMITH - James Roderick (Jim). Peacefully on April 27th 1997 aged 72. Husband of Daphne, father of Mark, Claire and Rose, grandfather to Jack, Alec and Grace. Funeral Service at St Mary's, Wallington, Baldock, Herts. on Friday May 9th at 12 noon. No flowers. Donations to Wallington Church Preservation Fund c/o E.H. Crouch Funeral Directors, 23A Hitchin Street, Baldock, Herts.

CZOCK - Margaret Doreen, beloved mother of four children, passed away peacefully on 24th April 1997. Funeral on Friday 2nd May at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3.15 pm. Flowers to Andrew Holmes & Son, 378 Richmond Road, East Twickenham TW1 2DX, tel: (0181) 744-1125.

de BUNSEN - Margaret, widow of Charles, peacefully on April 26th. Funeral at St Thomas's Church, Upshire, Essex, on Thursday May 8th at 2.30 pm. Enquiries to Peter Taylor F/S (01603) 760787.

HAMBRO - On April 26th David of The Hyde, East Hyde. Any enquiries to John Saunders & Son 01582 31696.

DODDERIDGE - Esmé of Presteigne, loving wife of Morris, peacefully at Knighton Hospital on April 28th 1997 aged 81 years. Funeral Service at Hereford Crematorium on Friday May 2nd at 11.15 am. No flowers but donations if desired to the Euthanasia Association. Enquiries to (01547) 528554.

HOPE - On April 28th 1997 peacefully at Exmouth after a long illness courageously borne, Laurence Frank Hope OBE aged 78 years, late of H.M. Diplomatic Service, devoted husband of Dorrie, beloved father and Daddy of Marcus and Uta, Celia and John. A much loved grandfather of Alexander, Timothy and Mary. All enquiries please to Richard W. Gegg Funeral Director, tel: (01395) 224040.

HOWESON - Arthur Coningham "Pic" on 28th April 1997, suddenly, but peacefully at Treliske Hospital. Husband of Sheila (deceased), father of Charles and Dicky, stepfather of Angus and Desmond, grandfather of Hugo, Pippa, Robin and Tavoya. Loved by all who knew him. Memorial Service to be held at Holy Trinity Church, St Austell at 11.30 on Friday 9th May following a private cremation. Enquiries: Ken Newcombe Funeral Director tel: 01726 75869.

JACK - Wing Commander Ralph Robinson peacefully on 26th April. A gentleman and beloved husband of the late Joan. Much loved father of Susan, Sarah and David and grandpa of Ramsey and William. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Woodmancote, Sussex, on Friday 2nd May at 2 pm. Donations in his memory, if wished, to the RAF Benevolent Fund c/o Freeman Brothers, 9 North Parade, Horsham, Sussex.

McCANN - Will, on 26th April 1997, formerly of MacGregors, Rangoon. Much loved father of John, papa to Anna. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service at St Nicholas' Church, Itchenor, at 4 pm Thursday May 8th. Family flowers only, donations to RNLI c/o Edward White & Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester.

MURRAY - Peacefully at Dollerie House, Crieff, on Monday 28th April 1997. Odette Marie (née Dot), beloved wife of Anthony, mother of Jamie and Elizabeth and grandmother of Rosie after a long illness bravely and sensitively faced. Funeral at Glenalmond Chapel on Friday 2nd May at 2.15 pm thereafter to Madderty Cemetery for 3.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations and collection for Cancer Research.

NOTTINGHAM - Robert (Bob) peacefully at home on April 28th aged 90. Dearly loved husband of the late Bab and most loving father of Anthony and Elizabeth and grandfather of Rachel, Edward, Alexandra and James. Service Neston Parish Church, 10.30 am Friday May 2nd. Flowers or donations if desired for Arthritis and Rheumatism Research Council c/o Henry Norman F/D, Neston, Cheshire L64 9UA.

PRINGLE - Major Robert Colin Pringle, Royal Signals (retired), aged 77, died on 28th April 1997 very peacefully after a long hard struggle against cancer. Dearly beloved husband of Anne and father of Catherine and Sandra and Grandpa to David. Sorely missed. Donations only for the Lewis-Manning Day Care Centre c/o Tappers tel: (01202) 694449.

RAVISSE - On April 28th 1997 suddenly at his home, aged 67, Henri Ravisse (OBE) President of the Calais Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Funeral at l'Eglise de Notre Dame, Calais, at 11am Friday, May 2nd.

ROBERTS - On 28th April 1997, in Bournemouth, Michael J Roberts MA aged 59 years. Husband of Kaoru. Enquiries to Deric-Scott, (01202) 309609.

ROGER - Neil Munro peacefully in hospital on April 27th aged 86. Cremation strictly private. No flowers please, but donations may be made to The Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR.

ROSSER - Frances Helen OBE aged 90 years passed away peacefully on April 27th in Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny. Former Cambridge graduate, Newnam College, 1937-41. Beloved sister of Benjamin Rosser. Funeral at Abergavenny Presbyterian Church on Friday May 2nd at 11 am followed by interment at the New Cemetery, Llanfoist. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Cardiac Rehab Unit, Nevill Hall Hospital c/o Ted Williams & Sons, Abergavenny, Mon.

SCHOFIELD - Cecilia Mary Frances on 25th April, beloved wife of James and mother of Carey, Hugo, Francis and Gaby. Requiem Mass at St Richard's Church, Slindon, West Sussex on Friday May 2nd at 12.45 pm. Flowers sent to Co-operative Funeral Directors, Kingsham Avenue, Chichester, tel: (01243) 782209.

SOHUN - Ramdught passed away peacefully on April 27th 1997 at his home. Dearly beloved father, uncle and grandfather. He will be sadly missed by his family in the UK and Mauritius. R.I.P.

WARMING - Johannes Herman on 26th April 1997, after a short illness and a long, full life. He will be much missed by family and friends.

WILLIAMS - Jean Helen (née Callaghan) peacefully on 27th April. Family funeral on Friday May 2nd. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

WOOD - On Tuesday 29th April, the eve of his 91st birthday, Browne William (Brownie) Lieutenant Colonel late the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, much loved husband of Joan and father of Sarah and Simon. Funeral at Bolton Percy Church on Tuesday 6th May at 11 am followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Bolton Percy Church.

WOOTTON - William Edward James (Bill) died peacefully in the early hours of Sunday April 27th 1997 aged 72. Much loved and admired husband of Jean, father of Jennie and Ian, and grandfather of Emily, Alice, Alexander and Charlotte. He never lost his zest for life, and confronted his illness with characteristic determination. He will be hugely missed. Cremation at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Tuesday 6th May at 9 am, followed by funeral service and interment of his ashes at Wells Cathedral at 2.30 pm. Family and friends are welcome to attend either or both occasions. No flowers please, but he would wish any donations to be made to The Wells Cathedral Music Endowment Fund or Imperial Cancer Research. Enquiries and donations to T. Wicks & Son, 73 High Street, Wells, Somerset BA5 2AQ, tel: (01749) 673377.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

MORRISON - In loving memory of a devoted husband and father Thomas Edward who died April 30th 1994 aged 52 years. Tom, God Bless love Mags, Andrew and Peter Morrison.

MARRIAGES

GOLDER:PARKER - At Le Saint Geran Hotel, Mauritius on 18th April 1997 between David Golder and Veronica Parker.

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OBITUARIES

LORD TAYLOR OF GOSFORTH

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice of England, 1992-96, died from cancer on April 28 aged 66. He was born on May 1, 1930.

Although ill-health forced him to retire early, in his four short years as Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth redefined the role of England's most senior full-time judge and changed fundamentally the public's perception of the judiciary. Taking on responsibility for the criminal justice system at a time of crisis, he did much to help to restore public confidence. Yet he will probably be remembered as much for his battles with Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, over criminal justice policy as he will for his contributions to the criminal law.

Until Lord Taylor's appointment in 1992, senior judges took the view that they had to make the best of whatever legislation Parliament served up, however half-baked it might turn out to be. But the new Lord Chief Justice believed he should try to get the recipe changed while there was still time. If a quiet word with the chef did not do the trick, he was never shy of letting everyone in the restaurant know what he thought of the fare on offer.

Peter Murray Taylor was born in Newcastle upon Tyne and educated there at the Royal Grammar School. His father was a doctor; his grandfather worked as a tailor. That, at least according to family legend, was why the immigration officer put his grandfather's name down as Taylor when he came off the boat from Vilna: the family name had originally been Teiger.

The youthful Peter Taylor first got to know his wife Irene during the war, when they were both evacuated as children to Cumbria. They were married in 1956, and had three daughters and a son. The couple were a year short of their fortieth wedding anniversary when Irene Taylor died in 1995, also of cancer. It was a loss which affected him deeply.

Taylor was the second Jew to become Lord Chief Justice of England: the first was Rufus Isaacs, later Marquess of Reading. While making no claims to be religiously observant, Taylor believed his Jewish background made him more sympathetic to the needs of minorities in society. He knew what it was like to be on the receiving end of prejudice. During a keynote speech on racial discrimination in the legal profession, he related a personal incident from his days as a QC on the North Eastern Circuit. He had been involved, he said, with an Indian client who requested an Indian barrister. That barrister, realising he would be partnering Peter Taylor, said he was not prepared to work with a Jew.

Taylor had also seen poverty at close quarters: as a wartime evacuee he lived in a house with no bathroom and no electricity. In 1992, when he became Lord Chief Justice, he said he thought he had been appointed because he was not considered to be wholly out of touch — he felt he was in the mainstream of the life of the nation.

Taylor made that remark at a news conference called to mark his appointment, the first time a judge had agreed to face the media in this way. He initially promised to hold news conferences every six months but soon thought better of it; despite his popular image, he never really understood the media and had little patience with journalists. He, no doubt, felt his worst feelings about the press were vindicated by the decision of a national newspaper in May 1996 to run a story about his impending retirement a few hours before Downing Street had intended to reveal that he was suffering from cancer (the announcement was brought forward as a result). But Taylor nevertheless did not hesitate to use press publicity when he wanted to make an impact. His devastating last speech in the House of Lords, delivered in May 1996, was effectively "trailed" in an article he published that morning in *The Times*.

After reading history at Pembroke College, Cambridge, Taylor was called to the Bar in 1954. Basing himself in Newcastle, he became a formidable advocate: he took silk when he was only 36. By 1980 he had risen to the top of his profession, becoming an outstanding leader of the North Eastern Circuit and then chairman of the Bar Council. In 1974 he had prosecuted the corrupt property developer John Poulson, who was sent to prison for seven years. Colleagues remember his choice turn of phrase. Some, he memorably quipped in that trial, are born with greatcoats; some acquire them; and others have greatcoats thrust upon them.

But in another famous trial of that era he did not fare so well. In 1979 Taylor prosecuted the former leader of the Liberal Party, Jeremy Thorpe, on charges of conspiracy to murder and incitement to murder: Thorpe, defended by George Carman, was acquitted on both counts.

Taylor was involved in two other cases which he was later to regret, although there was no suggestion that he was responsible for what turned out to be grave miscarriages of justice. In 1976 Taylor prosecuted Stefan Kiszko for the brutal murder of an 11-year-old girl. The jury found him guilty and it was not until 1992 that evidence emerged which proved Kiszko could not have been the killer. That evidence was not disclosed to defence lawyers at the time of Kiszko's original trial, although nobody suggested that Taylor himself was ever told about it. Kiszko died within two years of being cleared by the Court of Appeal.

He was also one of the junior Crown counsel in the case of Judith Ward, convicted of murdering the 12 people who died in 1974 when the IRA left a bomb in a coach travelling on the M62 motorway. Ward was cleared by the Court of Appeal

in 1992 after the court found that three senior forensic scientists had withheld crucial evidence. Some of the lawyers responsible for the original prosecution were criticised by the appeal judges for not advising the scientists of their duty to disclose this evidence to the defence.

Taylor, who was by then Lord Chief Justice, had offered to give evidence at Judith Ward's appeal, but he was told he would not be needed — the declining of his offer rankled with him and he later publicly spoke of it.

Taylor was made a High Court judge in 1980 and promoted to the Court of Appeal in 1988. A year later he was appointed to chair the inquiry into the Hillsborough football stadium disaster. He was a good choice: he had captained Northumberland at rugby and was a keen supporter of Newcastle's rugby and football teams. His handling of the inquiry was sensitive and efficient and the report, which followed, vivid and and well-received. It placed the blame on the police and the owners of the ground, not on the fans. Its principal recommendation was the introduction of all-seat stadiums, thus leading the Government to abandon its initial inclination towards a football identity card system.

The humanity which earned him praise for the Hillsborough report was evident in other aspects of his life. Taylor was a man of broad talents. As well as playing rugby, he was a classical pianist of near-professional accomplishment. He said he performed only at charity concerts "so that if something goes wrong, nobody can demand their money back". He had links for many years with the Leeds International Piano Competition and performed with its chairman, Dame Fanny Waterman, in public — as well as playing with Tatyana Nikolayeva, the great Russian pianist, in private at the Judges' Lodgings in Leeds. In the lunch recess during the Poulson trial, he was known to relax by slipping off to play the piano. He also enjoyed playing in his own string trio at Christmas parties and at the Garrick Club.

Sir Peter Taylor — he became a life peer only upon his appointment — succeeded Lord Lane as Lord Chief Justice of England in 1992. At that time, as he fully accepted, there was a crisis of confidence in the criminal justice system. The Birmingham Six had been freed on appeal a year earlier; before them, the Maguire family had been cleared; earlier still, it had been the turn of the Guildford Four. Taylor said he hoped these miscarriages of justice would change judicial attitudes. "I think judges will be a great deal more cautious in the way in which they direct juries on the facts," he said, "and I hope the police will be a great deal more cautious in how they go about their investigations."

An official acknowledgement that things had gone wrong was the first step to restoring public confidence in the system. When he retired in 1996, miscarriages of justice were not the concern they had been four years earlier, and Taylor is entitled to much of the credit.

He also did much to modernise the public's impression of the judiciary. Taylor said he wanted to overcome "the widely held belief that judges are out of touch or even, as has been said, 'live on another planet' ". He gave the occasional newspaper interview and became the first judge to appear on the BBC's *Question Time*. It was not an experience he chose to repeat.

Taylor believed that judicial wigs created the wrong image, and he tried unsuccessfully to have them abolished. Moreover, in a speech shortly before his retirement, he said judges should no longer remain silent in the face of media criticism. On "suitable occasions," he said, "judges should be prepared to speak on matters affecting the law and the courts, to answer criticism and to explain policies". Not many of them took him at his word.

Taylor had a remarkable influence on government policy. He had regular meetings with the Home Secretary and also spoke to the Prime Minister from time to time. Michael Howard would probably not have gone ahead with his plan to allow juries to draw inferences from a defendant's silence — in the face of a recommendation from the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice — if Taylor had not supported him. On the other hand, Howard had little option but to reject the commission's proposals for restricting trial by jury once Taylor had come out against them.

The full scale of Taylor's influence could even turn out to be retrospective. In a speech he made to Scottish solicitors at Gleneagles in the spring of 1993, he attacked two provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, 1991, which, he declared, "defy common sense". The provisions restricted the power of judges to imprison offenders. Within six months Parliament had abolished these restrictions, together with the discredited system of unit fines.

But by 1995, with a change of Home Secretary, criminal justice policy had gone into reverse. This time, the new Home Secretary's complaint was that judges were not using imprisonment enough. Indeed, Michael Howard told the Tory party conference that he wanted to introduce automatic life sentences for those convicted for a second time of some violent and sexual offences; he was also proposing stiffer sentences for persistent burglars and drug dealers. Within hours the Lord Chief Justice had begun a campaign of attack. It was to culminate in an extraordinary debate he initiated in the House of Lords in May 1996. "Never in the history of our criminal law have such far-reaching proposals been put forward on the strength of such flimsy evidence," he told a packed Lords' chamber. "Quite simply, minimum sentences must involve a denial of justice." Michael Howard appeared unmoved, but he cannot have welcomed the strength of parliamentary opposition which Taylor exposed.

It was a sombre and moving occasion. All those present were well aware that this was the last time they would see Taylor speak there as Lord Chief Justice. He was a warm and clubbable man, a popular member of the Garrick, and was held in great affection. Even as he and Michael Howard were attacking one another in public, both of them insisted that there was no personal animosity involved.

A few weeks earlier, Taylor had delivered his last judgment in court. Rosemary West, convicted of murdering ten young women whose remains were found at houses she had occupied, was refused leave to appeal. The Lord Chief Justice and the two judges sitting with him dealt briskly with the legal arguments put to them: their ruling did little to advance the law on such topics as "similar fact evidence" or the rules for "severing" an indictment. But the crucial sentence was to be found in their last paragraph. "The concept of all these murders and burials taking place at the applicant's home and concurrently grave sexual abuse of other young girls being committed by both husband and wife together without the latter being party to the killings is," declared the judges, "clearly one the jury were entitled to reject." In other words, Taylor was saying, Rosemary West must have been involved: it stood to reason. This was typical of his plain man's, commonsense, approach to the law.

Certainly, it was not an unexpected view from someone who aimed to make the judiciary more "user friendly", to give it a human face. More than that, it reflected a burning sense of his own role at the apex of the judiciary. In all he did, whether tackling the wrongs which had given rise to miscarriages of justice, or battling on the political front for the judges' independence and freedom to fit a sentence to the crime, he was both fearless and passionate.

He is survived by his three daughters and son.

SIR HENRY PEAT

Sir Henry Peat, KCVO, DFC, chartered accountant and former Auditor to the Queen's Privy Purse, died on April 4 aged 83. He was born on April 14, 1913.

HENRY PEAT came from a family of well-known chartered accountants and did not seek to escape the profession that ran in his blood. Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Oxford, he joined the family firm of Peat Marwick (then Peat Marwick Mitchell) as an articled clerk in the late 1930s, qualifying in 1940.

To an adventurous and high-spirited young man the prospect of spending the war in a reserved occupation had no appeal and, though his calling was protected under the National Service Acts, he volunteered to join the Royal Air Force as early as 1939. He was accepted but, much to his chagrin, found himself once again desk bound, controlling uniforms and equipment. He applied many times for more active service but was always turned down. Eventually he discovered that, given the casualties among rear-gunners, if he applied for that specific role he would be accepted. In spite of the handicap of being more than 6ft tall, he did apply and was accepted for training.

He joined Bomber Command and soon became a popular member of his mess, being a competent pianist and generous enough companion to lend his car to his friends when he was away flying. He flew some forty missions as "tail-end Charlie", mainly in Lancasters, and had his share of lucky escapes — the most notable being the occasion when his heavily-laden aircraft failed to take-off properly, ploughed through some nearby trees and broke up. The rear cockpit broke away from the main structure and remained relatively intact, allowing Peat to scramble clear and to help pull his comrades from the wreckage. Unfortunately, not all of them survived. In recognition of his many bombing missions with the RAF he was awarded the DFC.

After the war Peat returned to the family accountancy firm, eventually becoming a partner. He followed both his father and grandfather in being made Auditor to the Queen's Privy Purse and, having been appointed CVO in 1973, was advanced to KCVO in 1980.

During the 1960s he had joined the management committee of the Chartered Accountants Benevolent Association and eventually became their president — a position he held until his death. He was a very active participant in the affairs of the association, seeing it grow to having more than 500 beneficiaries. During the 1980s, together with the then secretary, he visited more than a quarter of the families on the association's books.

He retired in 1983 from Peat Marwick and went to live full-time in the Wiltshire countryside. Unfortunately, during the past year his health deteriorated to such an extent that he had to be moved into a local nursing home.

He married in 1932 but the marriage was later dissolved. He is survived by two sons and a daughter.

EULALIE SPICER

Eulalie Spicer, OBE, solicitor, died on March 29 aged 90. She was born on April 20, 1906.

EULALIE SPICER, one of the founders of the Legal Aid Scheme, secured her position in the legal establishment during the Second World War, running the Services Divorce Department.

By the end of 1942 the War Office had become seriously concerned about the morale of non-commissioned servicemen and women whose marriages were shaky. The volume of matrimonial litigation was rising fast but, with many solicitors and barristers serving in the Armed Forces, the existing scheme was severely strained. In response to these developments, the Law Society set up the Services Divorce Department. Spicer was appointed supervising solicitor.

Only four years qualified, she had recently joined the Law Society, from a small firm of solicitors, to undertake war work. In the process, she became one of the country's earliest salaried solicitors.

Under considerable pressure to prove herself, Spicer worked hard and developed a tough, somewhat masculine exterior. Not even close colleagues addressed her by her Christian name. She wore her hair in an Eton crop, never used make-up and occasionally dressed in a suit and tie. At various stages in life she played saxophone in her older brother's dance band, and was reckoned a handy shot with a rifle. Until she was 80, she smoked cigarettes through a long amber holder.

But even for unconventional women it was not easy at that period to draw from clients the necessary level of detail relating to adultery ("no fault" divorce had not then been invented). For an unmarried woman, dealing with more worldly clients, it could be especially difficult. She sometimes found the work distasteful, but earnestly believed in facilitating divorce, particularly if children were involved.

Spicer jointly edited the 15th edition of the standard work *Latey on Divorce*, and was solely responsible for editing the 4th edition of *Phillips Practice of the Divorce Division*.

Even before the war ended, the Government started planning for legal services to be incorporated in the welfare state. Spicer worked with senior figures such as Sir Thomas Lund of the Law Society and Dick Thesiger of the Lord Chancellor's Department on devising a structure for what later became the Legal Aid Scheme.

The scheme was formally introduced in October 1950, and Spicer was appointed secretary of the No 1 London area committee, handling appeals from lower committees. Out of the 12 areas across England and Wales, No 1 London was the most successful. The workload was formidable: after Spicer left it was considered large enough to split into two.

Law Society rules obliged her to retire in 1966 — she had been appointed OBE in 1961 — but she continued to work for seven years in private practice. She advised insurers, including a Lloyd's syndicate.

Eulalie Evan Spicer was born in Kent. Her upbringing was comfortable, thanks to the family's success in the writing-paper business. She attended St Helen's School in Northwood, Middlesex, then studied philosophy at King's College London, and at University College (her PhD was on Aristotle's conception of the soul).

Her family was devout: one uncle was Dean of Manchester. Spicer herself became secretary of the Legal Aid Committee of the Church of England's General Synod, and advised on changes to divorce law during the 1960s.

In retirement, her academic and religious interests flourished. She served for many years as a governor of her old school, and took a BD in theology at King's College. In October 1976, she was admitted and licensed by the Bishop of London as a lay reader.

Until she died, Eulalie Spencer continued to play an active part in churches around the home in Dolphin Square, Pimlico, which she had shared with her mother in the early 1950s.

She was unmarried and is survived by two nephews.

ON THIS DAY

April 30, 1909

A glimpse of the "good old days" when the duty on a barrel of beer was the equivalent of 39p (£57 in 1993), and when Lloyd George could present a Budget with a surplus of £488,000.

THE EFFECT OF THE BUDGET.

The changes introduced into the fiscal system by the Budget of 1909-10 are so numerous that a brief synopsis of their effect will be found useful. The items of taxation are mentioned in the order adopted by Mr. Lloyd George.

DUTIES ON PRIVATE MOTOR CARS.—A new graduated scale of duties on private motor cars and motorcycles is proposed for the United Kingdom (including Ireland, where hitherto there has been no tax on motor cars). The scale is as follows: Under 6½ horse power, £2 2s; under 12hp, £3 3s; under 16hp, £3 4s; under 26hp, £6 6s; under 33hp, £8 8s; under 40hp, £10 10s; under 60hp, £21; over 60hp, £42. Doctors' cars one-half these rates. Motorcycles £1. No change in rates on motor cabs; existing exemptions on trade vehicles continued.

DUTY ON PETROL.—Threepence per gallon on petrol and "other spirits used for motor vehicles." A rebate to be granted of half the duties to motor cabs and omnibuses.

INCOME-TAX.—The rates of poundage on earned incomes up to £3,000 per annum remain as at present - viz, 9d. [3¾p] up to £2,000 and 1s. [5p] over £2,000 and under £3,000. On all other incomes now liable to 1s. the rate will be 1s 2d. In the case of incomes under £500 a new abatement will be allowed of £10 for every child under 16 years of age.

A SUPER TAX.—On incomes over £5,000 a super tax of 6d [2½p] is to be levied on the amount by which it exceeds £3,000. Income tax exemptions and abatements are in future to be restricted to persons resident in the United Kingdom . . .

THE DEATH DUTIES.—The scale of Estate duties is "steepened" for estates exceeding £5,000, and the *maximum* of 15 per cent, will be reached at £1,000,000, instead of £3,000,000 . . .

LICENCES.—The scale of duties for the full publican's licence begins at 50 per cent of the annual value, subject to a *minimum* based on population; £5 in rural districts and in urban areas of less than 2,000 persons; £10 in urban areas between 2,000 and 5,000; £15 between 5,000 and 10,000; £20 between 10,000 and 50,000; £30 between 50,000 and 100,000; and £35 in London and other towns over 100,000.

HOTELS.—Hotels and restaurants whose receipts from the sale of liquor do not exceed one-third of their total receipts will receive concessions.

CLUBS.—A duty of 3d [1¼p] in the £ will be levied on the amount of the receipts of clubs from the sale of liquor.

LAND TAXATION.—It is proposed (1) to tax the owner of land, the value of which has risen through the enterprise of the community, or neighbours, to the extent of the community, or neighbours, to the extent of one-fifth of the "strictly unearned increment," starting from the value at the present moment. The tax will be payable when the land is sold . . .

THE SPIRIT DUTIES.—To be raised 3s 9d [18¾p] per gallon.

TOBACCO.—The duty on unmanufactured tobacco to be increased by 8d [3¼p] per lb, with equivalent additions to the duties on cigars, cigarettes and manufactured tobacco.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to John and Patricia Barrington and all involved with the Richmond and Twickenham branch of the Leukaemia Research Fund on raising £500,000 since the branch's inception.

J.L.S. - Gew. Love is in the air please phone Y.B.Ross.

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Promises, promises – made to be broken

Tony Blair has said it again. Labour has no plans to privatise Channel 4. But do the mild words spoken to Sir David Frost on BBC1 on Sunday morning constitute a promise? Not many people believe that Labour, if tomorrow goes its way, will resist for long the temptation to sell off Channel 4 to cover more pressing commitments. Will Labour honour the equally delphic promise it has given British Telecom that it is "minded" to relax the restrictions that, for now, keep BT out of the entertainment business? This issue has made no headlines. But we all have telephones. Freeing BT to sell movies by phone line could affect us all.

Judging when a promise has been broken is as hard as deciding when one has been made. *I was astounded by the* Independent Television Commission's rebuke to the ITV companies last week for "showing too much drama". Surely the ITC knows that what we see on ITV nationally is decided not by the companies but by the powerful ITV Network Centre. Rapping the companies for the network's deci*sions is like penalising the players* for the coach's mistake.

BRENDA MADDOX

But is the ITV network schedule such a mistake? It's not as if the channel were filled with game shows. The dramas, even the soaps, have been good. ITV's *ruling council* employs the Network Centre and its supremo, Marcus Plantin, to design a schedule that will meet the contradictory obligations laid on ITV. To *attract mass audiences, to earn a lot of money* (so the companies can meet their payments to the Treasury) and to fulfil public service requirements, not the least of which is to spoil every evening's entertainment by plonking *News at Ten* in the middle. To ask that the companies offer sober documentaries and risky new comedies to a centre mandated to please the audience is an exercise in futility.

The ITC has explained that it directed its criticism at the ITV companies because its powers to review performance extend only to them. These won their licences in part because of their programme promises. All the regulator can do, therefore, is to point out when a promise is not kept. Fair enough — except didn't the ITC also approve the national networking arrangements? If the web connecting the 15 regional companies to Network Centre is now labyrinthine, the ITC must demand clearer lines of responsibility for what gets on the screen.

Being a regulator is not easy. The ITC has to make tough judgments that are then open to judicial review. So far, when challenged in court by disappointed losers, it has won every time. But a big one is coming up. In the next few weeks the commission has the unenviable duty of choosing between two applicants for a commercial digital terrestrial TV service. The choice would be easier if there were four or five. But there are only two, both breathing hard in pursuit of what they see as a great prize.

The contenders could hardly be more different. The early favourite was BDB, an amalgam of Carlton, Granada and BSkyB (part-owned by the owner of *The Times*). Considering the weight of the two ITV parent companies, this tripartite alliance would hardly seem to justify the "Murdoch" label that some have slapped on it. Even so, Granada and BSkyB are heavily committed to launching digital television in its rival non-terrestrial, or satellite, form.

Will BDB's allegiance to digital satellite make it less than wholehearted in pursuing the terrestrial cause?

DTN, the other bidder, points in contrast to its own totally terrestrial plans, and to virtues such as city-based programming, 40 channels of interactive services, and pay-TV channels at half the price of current cable and satellite subscription channels. The new price structure, which has increased subscriber penetration in *cable areas, allows customers to* pick and pay for only the particular channels they want, not for a pre-packaged bundle.

The ITC will, however, have to weigh up the BDB charge: that its rival's offerings are too futuristic and variegated, either to pay their way or to tempt today's customers into making the investment in the required new set-top equipment to get digital *going fast. The ITC could dodge a difficult* choice, by splitting the available package of frequencies. That will satisfy nobody.

My own hunch: not until the required digital equipment is incorporated in the TV set will most people be tempted to buy it.

But the digital terrestrial decision is not the most important pending in British broadcasting. Nor is the decision on Channel 4's new head, although the board should *make up its mind fast. No, the most serious* outstanding commitment is that the next government resolve to keep C4 out of the hands of shareholders. Privatising it would destroy its anarchic diversity. Look at ITV.

You would think that BDB and DTN could have chosen more imaginative names. A lot of energy is going into designing new corporate names. Liz Forgan, the ex-head of BBC Radio, has just incorporated herself as "Most Media".

Production companies are making their way *in the crowded marketplace under such* bright labels as Hat Trick, Absolutely, Working Title, Ginger, Five Two Five, Bottom Line, Wild Dreams, Open Mike and Last Laugh. Considering the capacity of the younger royals to be misunderstood, Prince Edward may have been unwise to choose "Ardent".

THE LISTENER

THE NEWS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Cooke directs by example

WHEN the actress Orla Brady became nervous about stripping off for a steamy love scene with Nigel Havers, her leading man in the BBC1 drama *The Heart Surgeon*, the show's director Audrey Cooke decided to lead by example.

Reluctant to keep her crew *hanging around while Brady* steeled herself for the action, Cooke, an attractive thirtyish strawberry blonde known for her no-nonsense approach to work, peeled to the waist to show the timid actress exactly how it should be done. "I've never done it before and I certainly won't be doing it again," she says. "But the scene was crucial and Orla was wearing a big T-shirt and would not take it off. She wanted to see on the monitor how much she would be revealing, so I said 'OK' and I stripped off to show her."

Cooke's (mostly male) crew did not know where to look and developed a sudden and deep interest in the wall behind them. She says: "You should have seen their faces. Normally, the director is the least glamorous person on set, covered in 15 sets of thermals, a hat, a sweater and a big scarf."

The strategy worked and Brady bared all. "After seeing me topless," Cooke adds, "she reckoned nothing could be worse than that."

Audrey Cooke, left: showed Orla Brady, right, how to strip

- *Falkirk's Scottish FA Cup run is providing a sales boost for* The Falkirk Herald. *The town's giant-killers have beaten Celtic to secure a place in the final on May 24. The link was noted by Freddie Johnston, chairman of Johnston Press, which publishes the title. His ancestors took the paper, a weekly, which now sells 34,000 a week, in lieu of a debt in the last century. When announcing his company's financial results, he also said that certain high-profile murder stories had lifted sales for two of his group's local papers, but declined to predict which titles might benefit next.*

First in line

SINCE the news that Jodie Foster has been tipped to play Veronica Guerin, the murdered Irish journalist, in a Hollywood movie by Jerry Bruckheimer, *Top Gun's* producer, it emerges that a rival Guerin film is under way.

Winona Ryder *is about to* accept an offer from Irish Screen, a production company, to star in its as yet untitled production about Dublin gangs and *drug barons*. Patrick Bergin will co-star.

The Ryder film will have a big advantage over Bruckheimer's offering because it was in preparation before Guerin was *gunned down*. In fact, Guerin was acting as sole story-line consultant to its writers, *Michael Sheridan* and Ronan Gallagher.

Food for thought

THE secret camera has be*come a vital tool for* investigative television reporters trying to uncover illegal arms deals, drug-trafficking and other heinous crimes, and political repression. The microtechnology that has made these gizmos possible is now being employed by practitioners at the less dangerous end of the profession: restaurant reviewing.

The cable station Channel *One equipped reporter* Richard Stafford and cameraman Andrew Barron with a tiny camera disguised as a pair of spectacles for *Clandestine Critic*, a new slot in *Eat Up*, its weekly food programme.

The intrepid duo came a cropper, however, when filming their first assignment — a review of London's latest eaterie, the Oxo Tower, a restaurant perhaps best known for its bad service, rather than good food. Having ordered a bowl of piping hot soup, Barron suddenly found his glasses steaming up and, in a moment of unthinking panic, ripped them off, disconnecting the wire and exposing his true identity.

Whizzing off

THE latest high-ranking executive to leave the BBC is Fabiola Arrendondo, a 30-year-old American whiz kid brought in less than a year ago to head BBC Worldwide's international distribution arm.

The departure of Arrendondo, who has previously worked for the German media giant Bertelsmann and the US investment bank J.P. Morgan, is an acute embarrassment for the Beeb. She was brought in to inject some tough commercial realism *and dynamism* into the Corporation's international operations, yet insid*ers suggest* that she left because she had become frustrated at not being given the power to implement many of her decisions, which would have brought about these very goals.

Arrendondo is believed to have had particular difficulties over the BBC's much-*hyped joint* venture with Discovery Communications, which now seems unlikely to be agreed until the summer.

Less is more entertaining

ADVERTISING

"THE smaller the budget the better the ad" was one of the conclusions reached *by 50 media journalists at a special* advertising event last week.

The event, hosted by Ammirati Puris Lintas, famous for Peperami's award-winning advertising, was an informal rejudging of the British Television Advertising Awards held in March — an attempt to see whether journalists would agree with the "luvvie" judges.

While the journalists agreed with awarding Blackcurrant Tango top prize, they upgraded one of Umbro's low-budget Euro '96 ads, which *starred three blokes in a pub chatting* about football, as well as a black and white First Direct film featuring Bob Mortimer jumping a bus queue. At the same time, they downgraded Levi's lavish "mermaids" commercial.

As if to fuel the theory further, no car commercials, which are among the most expensive to film, made it onto either list. Could this mean that too much money in the hands of adfolk can be foolishly misspent.

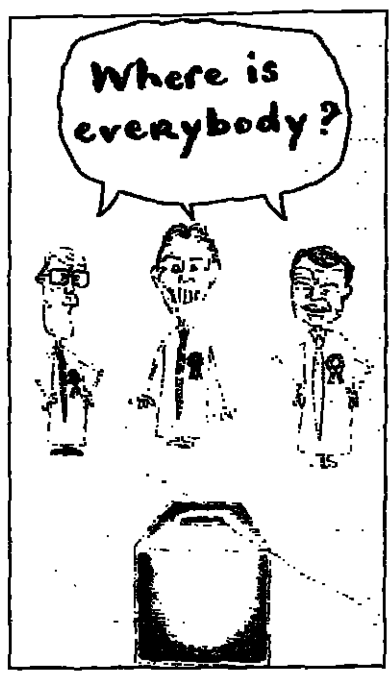
HOWELL Henry Chaldecott Lury, the agency behind Tango and Martini, has always prided itself on alternative business practices.

After implementing "tissue meetings" — in which clients are offered several layers of advice — and outlawing all job titles, the 10-year-old *agency is now phasing in "romping"*, alias its Roving Office Mobility Project. Translated, this means that employees have no fixed abode in the office, and rub shoulders with different colleagues every day.

The agency has also just christened several new meeting rooms after its five founding principles — The Church Hall (collaboration), The Airport (thinking ahead), The Lab*oratory (innovation), The Stadium* (competitiveness) and The Court House (accountability).

ADVERTISING agencies, always quick to spot an opportunity, have been exploiting election fever. First was Old El Paso, with its spoof Party Political Broadcast, then Tango with its Vote Orange ad, but in the past few days both John Smith's Bitter and British Airways have launched their own campaigns. Smith has adapted the *Labour poster, Britain Deserves* Better, to read "Britain Deserves Bitter". BA has launched a variation on its "Where is everybody?" theme with an ad featuring the three party leaders asking the same question as they stand in front of a ballot box.

BELINDA ARCHER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Strong non-execs failed

☐ LORD TEBBIT was a fearsome Cabinet minister, well able to disguise *his finer* feelings when faced with *tough decisions*. He is so proud of his famous exhortation to the unemployed that they should board their bicycles and head off in search of work, that he pens a regular column for *The Sun* under the *heading "On Your Bike."*

But as *a long-standing director* of Sears, his lordship clearly took a more sympathetic view when faced with deciding the fate of Liam Strong. The disaster-prone chief executive is at last being *sent on his way*, but with up to £500,000 in his saddle bags.

Institutional investors who have been crying out for management change at Sears were yesterday too relieved by Strong's departure to cavil over the cost. However, *the raft of* private shareholders who have seen their investment deteriorate over the past five years may feel less sanguine about the handout.

There is no doubting the scale of the task that faced the *former* British Airways marketing director when he walked blithely into the group's Oxford Street head office. *His public statements at the time indicate* either that Strong completely underestimated the difficulties or showed an honourable, but foolhardy, sensitivity to the *ancien régime*.

What became increasingly obvious as he littered successive annual reports with platitudes and promises, was that even if he had realised the inherent problems in Sears, he was not capable of righting *them. British* Shoe Corporation was the running sore at Sears when Strong arrived, and, while the scale of the business has been cut back, its losses are growing.

Strong's ill-judged *deal to offload some of the shops on to* Stephen Hinchliffe, the persuasive entrepreneur who is now the subject of an SFO inquiry, was a measure of his desperation. But the board *should* have realised he was out of his depth before that. It was increasingly clear that he could not build the team that an enterprise of Sears's size *needed: the* roll call of departures would have worried the most gung-ho hire and fire merchants.

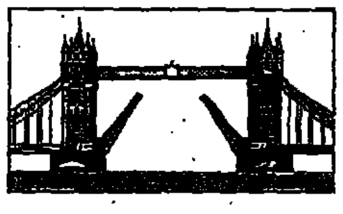
Yet, while the City grew increasingly perturbed by his performance, the Sears board *made him* a protected species.

The Sears boardroom had its heavyweights. Apart from Lord Tebbit, whose credentials as a retail expert remain something of a mystery, the doughty Sir Alick Rankin, currently chairman of Bank of Scotland, has been a director since the pre-Strong days. David McDonald, chairman of Pittards, has been *there since 1981. Why did they let* the misery wear on? It is said that the ultimate power in the hands of an unhappy non-executive director is that of resignation: Peter Ellwood, of *Lloyds TSB did* resign, *but chose to do so quietly over Christmas.* If his move was a gesture of protest, it was totally ineffective, and if it was not, then he too should be asked to make a contribution to that £500,000 *that Strong is to* pocket.

Markets call a Labour win

☐ TOMORROW'S poll is *reckoned* to be such a foregone conclusion in the markets that the post-election bounce is *happening before the election. Yesterday's sharp rise* in the FT-SE 100 index, taking it within a shrew's whisker of its March 11 high, owes something to Wall Street's rapid climb back up the *slippery* pole. That *is by no* means the whole story. Sterling rose against the dollar as well as against the mark, to a level that is no more sustainable now than it was in *1992*.

PENNINGTON



This is not a *comment on the* parties, unlike the 5 per cent share price jump after John Major's surprise 1992 win. *Rather* it is a natural expression *of relief that one uncertainty* is over. Markets rarely discount expected events fully, so there might well be enough of a rise on Friday to send the index into new *territory*, unless Wall Street takes a *strong hand*. Buying decisions stalled pending the result of the six-week campaign are simply being released.

No bets are now being taken on Labour to win so, in time-honoured fashion, sporting traders are turning to the minutiae of the count to fine-tune their post-election tactics. A tiny majority *or hung Parliament would go down badly*; a landslide might revive foreign fears of the socialist monster. The world of finance, conducting its usual love affair with the tedious, hopes for a "sound" 40-60 *seat majority*.

Relief is unlikely to last long. Attention will soon shift to the planned May 7 meeting of the Chancellor and the Governor to discuss monetary policy. The foreign exchanges *assume* that if Gordon Brown *attends*, base rates will rise a quarter point. If Kenneth Clarke were there, this would not be self-evident.

Mr Brown is thought certain to accede to the Governor's inevitable request *as* a *way* of presenting his references to the Worshipful Company of Speculators. He could as easily deduce that there is no need, or put on *half a point to send speculators* packing or postpone the meeting for a week. Thereafter, speculation in the equity market will centre on Mr Brown's emergency Budget, due in two months time. The timid institutional investor's search for certainty is doomed to endless frustration.

Achieving the impossible

☐ HARRY MOORE, chief executive of Co-operative Retail Services, *ended his results presentation* yesterday *by quoting* the Labour Party theme tune: "Things can only get better." What he really meant to say was: "Things can't get much worse."

A *loss of £13.9 million after restructuring charges of £18.1 million* with sales slipping 0.9 per cent to £1.54 billion amounts to something most thought impossible. The CRS has managed to produce *an even more appalling set of figures* than the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the business that was once its sister but is now its competitor.

Galvanised into action by the *attentions of one* Andrew Regan, the CWS has suggested that the two Co-operative organisations merge. But the CRS will have none of it, saying its own overtures in that direction, most recently in 1994, were rudely spurned.

The prospect of co-operation now seems likely to be superseded *by the sort of battle for supremacy commercial organisations play*. A coming together has to happen eventually, but on whose terms? Moore reckons CRS has the better management and wants a couple of years to show this. The target is to invest £200 *million this* year *in new* systems, facias and stores, delivering 5 per cent return on sales (against 1.5 per cent now) and a 50 per cent rise in sales per square foot to £12.

This might not be much in *the* real world but *under* the arcane umbrella of the Co-op it gives Moore the ammunition to turn to the CWS and say: "We're clearly the better society. We should take control of the whole movement."

Do not pass 'Go'

☐ NOMURA has added its name to the list of those who feel tarnished by the *non-bid* for CWS. In bringing so many big City names to such public humiliation, Andrew Regan has achieved the sort of coup some critics of the Square Mile *might never* have thought possible. *He* has also guaranteed that this is one thrusting young entrepreneur who will, in future, have to confine his ambitions to the Monopoly board.

Gilles Pelisson, marking the park's fifth anniversary with actresses Melanie Griffith and Ornella Muti, wants growth

Nintendo in price war with Sony

NINTENDO, the Japanese computer games company, *is to cut the cost of its new* N64 games *machine* from £250 to £150 in an attempt to torpedo the success of Sony's Playstation (Fraser Nelson writes).

The move, which will be accompanied by a £1.5 million advertising campaign, will come as a shock to those who bought 75,000 of the N64s at the full price after its *launch last month*.

Nintendo said it is *making* an aggressive move to bring itself into head-on competition with the Playstation, the price of which *has* been *cut* from £200 *to* £130.

Recent figures from Chart-Track, an independent market research body, show the Playstation has 65 per cent of *the* market, with the N64 *at 5.5 per cent.*

Cairn Energy and Shell in $200m Asian alliance

By Carl Mortished

CAIRN ENERGY *and* Shell have entered into a $200 million alliance to develop Cairn's gas interests in Bangladesh and to seek further upstream and power projects *in* Bangladesh, India and neighbouring Asian countries.

Cairn has agreed to give up half of its interest in two blocks offshore of Bangladesh, including a half share in Cairn's 75 *per cent interest in* the Sangu field, believed to contain more than a trillion cubic feet of gas. In exchange, Shell will pay Cairn $130 million and will fund all exploration and *development costs*, up to a *total of $200 million*.

Cairn will immediately transfer a 25 per cent of its Bangladeshi interests to Shell, with the second 25 per cent *dependent* on the *success* of *the Cairn/Shell alliance* in securing new acreage in a forthcoming Bangladeshi oil *licensing round*.

Gammell: outlined objective

Bill Gammell, Cairn's chief executive, said the company's strategic position in southern Asia would be considerably enhanced. "I could justify the deal on the *basis of existing* acreage, but *the objective is to* get 50 per cent of four blocks."

The alliance creates an area of mutual interest (*AMI*) in Bangladesh, under which Cairn is entitled to up to a half share in any new upstream pipeline or power development, including gas into crude *oil plants using Shell's proprietary technology*. The alliance extends further into India, where the partners have created another area of mutual interest. The intention is to *exploit the region's huge energy market*, with the *prospect* of a pipeline to export gas from Bangladesh to India.

Cairn and Shell are now in discussions over prospects in neighbouring countries in *Asia. Shares in the exploration* company soared after the discovery of the Sangu gasfield last year, raising the prospect of further giant gasfields in the two offshore blocks under *Cairn's control*.

Tempus, page 32

Euro Disney losses grow as interest payments rise

By Adam Jones

LOSSES at Euro Disney, the theme park operator, increased in the first half of 1997 after a rise in the interest payments demanded *on its* Fr15 billion debts, the company said yesterday.

In the six months to March 31, traditionally a low season, it lost Fr210 million compared with Fr169 *million in the same* period last year.

Euro Disney is 39 per cent owned by the Walt Disney Co. Prince al-Waleed bin Talal, *the Saudi Arabian investor, took a 24 per cent stake* in 1994. Turnover from its Disneyland Paris theme park and *resort rose 12.5 per cent to* Fr2.1 billion over the six months as prices were held at 1996 levels. However, the interim results were dragged down by an Fr68 million rise in charges, to Fr356 *million*.

Euro Disney had enjoyed an interest payment holiday on some debts after its 1994 restructuring. These financing charges began to kick in again *last year, to the tune of* an extra Fr120 million. The additional cost in the full 1997 fiscal year is estimated to be Fr200 million. *This should* grow by a *further Fr120 million in* 1998.

Gilles Pelisson, chairman, said Disneyland Paris was managing seasonal fluctuations better. "*Growth in the* high season remains vital to counter the sharp increase in financial charges."

A Euro Disney spokesman added that *1997 is the* crunch *year: "We will have to keep* improving and improving to meet these financial charges. This year is going to be the most difficult."

A consistent year-on-year *revenue rise of at least 5 per* cent is needed to meet the extra finance and leasing costs.

A new cinema and conference centre will be opened in *the next six months. He said* there should also be room for admission fee increases in 1998. They are currently Fr150-Fr195 *for adults and* Fr120-Fr150 for children. Income from commercial development of land near Disneyland Paris should come onstream *in the same year*.

However, royalty and management fees will have to be paid to Disney from 1998. The cost is estimated at about Fr200 million a year.

Euro Disney recorded a profit before exceptionals of Fr156 million in 1996, only the second year it had been in the black. One analyst forecast Fr110 *million this year. In London Euro Disney shares* fell to 103½p from 107½p.

Tempus, page 32

BA shares rise on USAir sale report

By Oliver August

SHARES in British Airways rose yesterday amid speculation *that it was close to announcing the sale of its 24.6* per cent stake in USAir.

They rose from 694p to 704p on speculation that it could be paid as much as $530 million for its holding of preference shares, which has *to be sold to at least five separate parties*. A BA spokesman said: "We have moved a step closer to a sale."

BA paid $400 million for its USAir stake in 1993, subsequently writing it down by £125 million in 1995 to reflect the American airline's *precarious financial position at the time.*

However, USAir's fortunes have improved. Last year it resumed dividend payments *which had been suspended in* 1994. George Soros, the investor, recently sold his 5 per cent stake in USAir at a profit.

BA can sell its stake privately or in a public offering, but *cannot sell the shares in one block without regulatory approval*. Under the terms of purchase, BA cannot allow any buyer to hold more than 5 per cent of USAir's stock.

BA first said in December that it planned *to sell its stake at a premium. Three BA directors have since* resigned from US Air's board as the two carriers' divorce continues.

Air London given a lift by executive jets

By Fraser Nelson

DEMAND for executive jets *has fuelled growth* at Air London, the aircraft charter broker, which overcame a downturn in its holiday aircraft business to return record interim profits.

It blamed tight margins and costs of recruiting extra staff for the 17 per cent profits drop at its commercial aircraft division, but said the sharp jump in demand for private jets had overcome this.

Tony Mack, *chairman, said: "The strength of our business* is that one division can do well and the reverse can happen in the second half. But overall profits will always go up." However, *he said there is unlikely to be a repeat* of last November's 10p special dividend in the near future.

Pre-tax profits rose 13 per cent to £1.12 million on sales up 10 per cent at £17.9 *million*. Earnings *rose* to *7.8p* (6.5p) a share. The interim dividend is 2.5p (1.9p).

Mr Mack, who owns 60 per cent of the company, picked up £541,000 through the special *dividend and stands to pocket* £135,000 *from the increased interim payout*, due on June 20. The shares, which have doubled in value over the past 12 months, fell to 243½p from 251p.

Saints chairman to stand down

GUY ASKHAM, who *has* been *heavily* criticised by *fans for his role in the flotation of* Southampton Football Club, yesterday said he will step down as chairman of the Saints at the end of season (Alasdair Murray writes).

Mr Askham, who has been chairman for eight years, will be replaced by Rupert Lowe, who is also chairman of *Southampton* Leisure, the club's *holding company*. Mr Askham will *remain* as deputy *chairman of Southampton Leisure*. Mr Lowe said that Mr Askham had simply decided it was time to pass on the chairman's role. Mr Lowe added that the board had decided to appoint him in a dual capacity to help to shorten the lines of communication as the club moves towards *building its new stadium*.

Supporters have voiced concern over a deal *in* which several Southampton directors bought shares in the club from an investment company, formerly linked to Mr Askham, just weeks before the £10 million takeover by Secure Retirement. Shares in the company closed down 2½p at 90p.

☐ Shares of Burnden Leisure, the new owner of Bolton Wanderers, closed at 62½p on the first day of *trading* after *touching a high of 77½p. The company was* formed via a reverse takeover of Bolton by Mosaic Investments, the investment vehicle of David Williams, the entrepreneur.

City Diary, page 33

AND IF YOUR MIND clamps shut at the mere mention of the word million, consider this: If you add up your lifetime earnings - past and future - you will see that you will almost certainly earn a fortune in your lifetime. It could add up to a million pounds - or more.

The trouble is, like most people you'll earn it - and spend it.

Of course, what you could be doing is taking this fortune and turning some of it into another fortune - the one you want to end up with.

But you'll probably say you've been too busy to attend to this yourself ... or perhaps managing money today just seems too complicated ...

Maybe you think you should entrust your money to an expert. If you do, you may be disappointed. The shocking truth is many professional fund managers are not much good at what they do. Most of them do more poorly than the Stockmarket as a whole. The only certainty about letting *others manage your money is that you'll* let them help themselves to a chunk of it through their fees.

IN FACT the widely-accepted Random Walk theory says that you will beat the pros at picking shares by simply blindfolding yourself and sticking a pin in the share table in your newspaper.

Incredible, but true.

Look at unit trusts. The vast majority of them underperform the Stockmarket in general over time. They would have actually lost you money compared to buying shares at random!

So the question is: Why pay fat commissions and "management fees" to have a so-called professional manage your money?

What about seeking advice from a financial advisor - someone who'll give you sound and impartial advice on what best to do with your hard-earned money.

Well, you're going to have to look quite hard.

Firstly, most financial advisors aren't independent. They're not even allowed to call themselves that. That's because they're employed by the big financial fund managers to sell their products, and their products alone. They're really just salesman.

So what about those who are allowed to call themselves independent financial advisers? Consider this fact: most IFA's earn their living from commission from the products they sell. Yet some of the best investments are run by firms which pay no commission. How likely do you think it is they'll be on your IFA's shortlist of recommended investments if there's a commission-paying firm offering a remotely similar product?

But ... let's face it ... most people find today's world of personal finances too complicated - and too baffling. *In short, they're stuck. They are successful in many other respects. But when it comes to investing and money management* they have no real plan. All because there's been no simple way to get started. That is, until now ...

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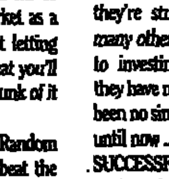

"At last it is possible for a normal human being to learn the ins-and-outs of money-management and investing without all *sorts of pompous* and *confusing technical twaddle* ...
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Douglas Moffitt, TV and Radio Financial Commentator

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In simple language it outlines step-by-step how to build your own financial independence ... and how to take the million or so you'll probably earn in your lifetime and get started on building the million *you want to end up with ... and all without depending on some "expert" ... and without paying* for advice that may not be truly independent.

THE SPI COURSE starts with the basics and then goes on to the "tricks of the trade" - the simple, tried and true techniques that enable you to protect and then pyramid profits to build wealth even faster.

First - you'll quickly see how to "uncover" up to an extra £2,000 a year to invest - money you probably didn't even *know you had.*

Second - you'll be surprised at how easy it is to learn how to evaluate pension schemes ... gilts ... shares ... Personal Equity Plans ... Enterprise Investment Schemes ... property investments ... *simple strategies that can slash your tax bill ... in fact, all the important* areas of investing and money management.

Third - And maybe most rewarding, you'll learn in detail about a number of crafty but simple "behind-the-scenes" techniques that you don't usually get to find out about at all. The kind that can often boost your returns 20, 30, even 50 *per cent more - sometimes just in months - not years.*

FOR EXAMPLE, a little *technique called* a "straddle", lets you bet that the Stockmarket will go up - and at the same time bet that it will go down - believe it or not, it is perfectly possible to make a profit whether it goes up or goes down!

Or how you can use your pension plan to turn £770 into £1000 overnight - or more if you're a higher rate taxpayer.

Of course there's a good deal more. But as you can see Successful Personal Investing is definitely not just some collection of "hot tips" or boring technical mumbo-jumbo.

Always everything is spelled out step-by-step, like a simple recipe. So you take just those steps that are right for your own circumstances.

BEAR IN MIND TOO, that the publisher of SPI, Independent Research Services Ltd., is not linked in any way to any vested interests. It is not connected with any Stockbroker or Insurance Agency or Unit Trust or the like ... and it has no commissioned Salesmen or Agents. *So you can be absolutely* sure that what you learn will be for no one's benefit but yours.

Let's face it - most people spend more time planning a fortnight's holiday than learning how to manipulate their money.

Surprisingly, SPI takes only a couple of hours of your time a month. There is no burning of the *midnight oil*.

True, money isn't *everything*. But it does help. SPI shows you how to start on the way towards having that million - and being able to tell yourself that you're a "millionaire". So, before your mind clamps shut over that word again ... why not at least take the opportunity to see for *yourself? You can now get to look over the first two lessons with no obligation for 10* days just by posting the coupon below. And whatever you decide, Lesson 1 is yours to keep - FREE!

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THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY APRIL 30 1997

NEWS

Rivals unite against euro chief

■ John Major and Tony Blair were united in condemnation yesterday of a European commissioner's call for Britain to be excluded from a seat at world financial summits if it did not *join a single currency*.

Kenneth Clarke also joined the criticism, so that Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the commissioner responsible for monetary union. achieved the rare feat of putting the Chancellor on the same side as his Eurosceptic critics .... **Pages 1, 9-16, 22, 23**

British Library readers may have to pay

■ The British Library is exploring plans to introduce charges *for its reading room*. After 250 years of free access, it plans to broach the subject with its 400,000 readers by distributing a questionnaire this week. Members will be asked how they feel about 21 possible annual charges .... **Page 1**

Lord Taylor dies

Court hearings were halted as judges and lawyers gathered to pay tribute to Lord Taylor of *Gosforth. The former Lord Chief* Justice died of a brain tumour at his home in Guildford...... **Page 1**

Blair invokes Smith

Tony Blair invoked the memory of John Smith as he launched *Labour's final push for victory* with his predecessor's appeal for "the chance to serve" .... **Page 1**

Prison rampage

Loyalist prisoners went on the rampage at the Maze jail in protest at security restrictions **Page 2**

Boy George victory

Boy George did have a homosexual affair with the rock musician Kirk Brandon, a High Court judge ruled, rejecting a "malicious falsehood" action against the singer .... **Page 3**

Ugly art crime

An undercover policeman was sold a stolen picture of a woman "*so ugly that only her son would* have painted it" without one of the vendors realising it was *Portrait of his Mother* by Rembrandt, a court was told ... **Page 4**

A lighter bite

British chocolate, already criticised by the European Union as a fraud upon the public, took *another step on the road to degradation* with the launch of two "low fat" chocolate bars ... **Page 5**

Gulf illness study

Servicemen and women are being encouraged to participate in an official study into the cause of *Gulf War illnesses with the offer* of a £1,000 cash prize .... **Page 6**

Road to democracy

It seemed like a good idea to track down the remotest voter in Britain, the one who will have to *travel furthest to exercise his* democratic right at a polling station .... **Page 11**

Israel warns Syria

Israel issued an unprecedented warning to President Assad after the disclosure that Syria has, with Russian aid, begun to manufacture a nerve gas .... **Page 17**

French debate EU

Europe dogged the French election campaign as new figures pointed to more public spending cuts as France prepares for monetary union .... **Page 18**

Europe rebuffs Iran

EU foreign ministers agreed to *return their ambassadors to* Tehran but announced the indefinite cancellation of Europe's high-level dialogue with Iran in response to official Iranian support for terrorism .... **Page 18**

Rebel 'atrocities'

As the rebels in Zaire push towards the capital, Kinshasa, *details are emerging of alleged* human rights violations in territory they control .... **Page 19**

Family tree reveals far-flung branches

■ When Lord Tordoff's family grew tired of people asking if their surname was Russian, they decided to trace their roots. They did not bargain on an invitation to a family reunion in a *Yorkshire village hall. Among the 300 people there were a* Buddhist monk, an American clown, a novelist and a documentary film-maker from Devon — but no Russians ... **Page 4**

ANTHONY UPTON

A fireman lights a flare amid a noisy demonstration in Chelmsford in support of striking Essex Fire Brigade staff. Page 2

BUSINESS

Co-op: *The Serious Fraud Office is* to launch an investigation into a deal in 1995 between the Co-operative Wholesale Society and Hobson Group, a company then controlled by Andrew Regan .... **Page 29**

Economy: New consumer credit figures showed growth slowing in March. Total net lending fell from £3.06 billion in February to £2.55 billion last month .... **Page 29**

Telecoms: A group led by Carlton Communications has opened negotiations with BT over an alliance to launch digital television in terrestrial form .... **Page 29**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 43.5 to close at 4433.2. Sterling rose from 99.9 to 100.3 after a rise from $1.6237 to $1.6310 and from DM2.8054 to DM2.8127 .... **Page 32**

SPORT

Football: *England's World Cup qualifying tie against Georgia at Wembley is as much about* recapturing a mood as securing three more points towards the finals .... **Page 56**

Cricket: Ireland beat Middlesex in the Benson and Hedges Cup to record their first victory over a first-class county side................. **Page 56**

Golf: Nick Faldo has surprisingly decided to return to Britain next month to compete in the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth, a favourite course............... **Page 53**

Rugby union: *Tom Walkinshaw,* whose TWR Group controls the Arrows Formula One motor racing team, has injected more than £2 million into the Gloucester club .... **Page 54**

ARTS

Depp charge: *How Johnny Depp.* the brightest of the brat-pack stars, tackled the role of an FBI agent going undercover to fight the mob in *Donnie Brasco* .... **Page 37**

New morality: For his latest play Joe Penhall, one of our brightest new writers, has abandoned murder and mayhem in favour of hard work and morality .... **Page 38**

Rising star: Neil Rutherford is acting in *Salad Days* on tour, composing a musical, playing in a film, and has just directed a revue. And he is only 27 .... **Page 38**

Hanging gardens: Stand in the centre of Sir Norman Foster's Commerzbank tower in Frankfurt and look up, and you peer into a 500ft vertical void filled with gardens .... **Page 39**

FEATURES

Nigella Lawson: The Spice Girls embody the belief that it is acceptable to appear sexually available but unacceptable to be treated as sexually available .... **Page 21**

Model citizen: "Why does MORI keep on polling me?" Ivan Barnes is the man with the real lead in the polls .... **Page 21**

STYLE

From the top: Stripes have moved from the sports ground to the street .... **Page 20**

Safe and secure: Jane Shilling on the similarity between the familiar item of clothing she is reluctant to throw away and the blanket from which her son hated being separated .... **Page 20**

MEDIA

Paper victory: Nothing so thrills editors as a general election and, says Brian MacArthur, the coverage this time has been fairer than usual .... **Page 27**

THE PAPERS

The majority has made public its *electoral programme*. The socialists should do the same before the end of the week and Lionel Jospin has just declared that it is time to enter into the heart of the matter. High time indeed. Because French people are showing a massive indifference towards the two big coalitions who are going to confront each other — *Le Monde*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ TRAVEL
Why Princess Margaret's favourite Caribbean island is targeting British tourists

■ BOOKS
Marianne Wiggins explains her refusal to be bowled over by Thomas Pynchon's latest

TV LISTINGS

Preview: It is surprising what people talk to their hairdressers about. *Modern Times: Shampoo* (BBC2, 9pm). **Review:** A new police series fails to melt Matthew Bond's cynicism .... **Pages 54, 55**

OPINION

Invisible election

If the Tories are evicted from office this week they will doubtless move swiftly to the leadership question. They would do well to consider the local democracy issue with equal intensity .... **Page 23**

Licence to murder

Despite the Berlin judgment, the US has far to go to convince Europe that Iran is still a threat to Western democracy .... **Page 23**

Canada high

For the first time in a generation, *the election will not be about Canada's* Constitution or its possible break-up. That is, in itself, a *measure of Mr Chrétien's* achievement .... **Page 23**

COLUMNS

BEN PIMLOTT

Labour's intellectuals are unashamedly vengeful: they relish the Tory collapse, the end of smirking and strutting, the ensuing civil war. They hope, savagely, that somebody really awful, like John Redwood, will become leader of the Conservative *Party. Intellectuals* are a superior lot. They look glumly at the quality of some members of *Labour's front bench* .... **Page 22**

ALAN COREN

I have always wanted to keep a dog, but they're a frightful liability; they have to be schooled, they have to be walked, they have to be vetted, they have to be groomed, they bite people, they chase cats, they foul footpaths, they eat that jelloid muck you have to spoon out for them, and this strikes me as a great deal of trouble to go to just to enjoy their *companionship* .... **Page 22**

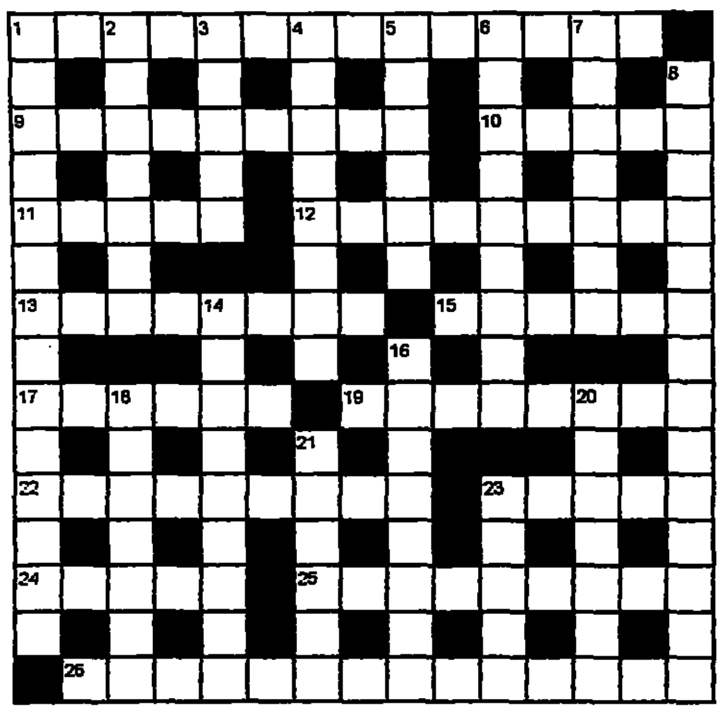
OBITUARIES

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice of England, 1992-96; **Sir Henry Peat,** accountant; **Eulalie Spicer,** solicitor .... **Page 25**

LETTERS

Labour and health; tactical voting for Eurosceptics; reform of the licensing laws; Norway's position in Europe; Shaw's classic plays; chocolate-flavoured carrots ...... **Page 23**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,467



ACROSS

1 Preliminary survey involving deception in revivalist movement (14).

9 A French character on the staff? That's not normal (9).

10 It's laughable, backing Liberal peer (5).

11 Grating officer finally installed in mess (5).

12 Depict spy, somehow, as irritable (9).

13 Plan suit in order to arrive at these? (8).

15 Satisfy opposing players, returning prize (6).

17 Row about doctor's deal, perhaps (6).

19 Month in which no priest returned without honour (8).

22 Symbol of this steel-maker's seen *in outskirts of Milan* (9).

23 Aspect of planet calling for a few words right away (5).

24 In principle, a stake is the minimum possible (5).

25 Self-confidence at a premium? (9).

26 Businessman intended to accept royal honour before game (8,6).

DOWN

1 Hug troubled man involved in scuffle (5,3,6).

2 Inclination to take rent for a spell (7).

3 Nick is "chapel", it seems (5).

4 Terrier's extremely good on new lead (8).

5 Secure place in military band, making impact (6).

6 Speech initially embarrasses employer? He should get his cards (9).

7 Her colt's cavorting makes us laugh (7).

8 Illicit trader in film, always under censure (5,9).

14 Obdurate aliens organised uncontrollable movement (9).

16 Not all are, we hear, situated in an agricultural county (8).

18 Picture Romeo, for one, without upper-class involvement (7).

20 50s drop-out exhausted and upset relatives (7).

21 Boy brought up in an overthrown state (6).

23 Sounds like Charlie Bird's coat (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,466

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Times Two Crossword, page 56

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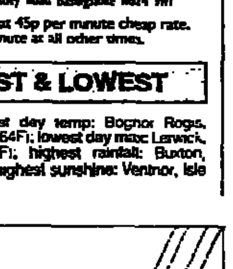
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire, 0.7in; highest sunshine: Ventnor, Isle of Wight, 9.5hr



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales should stay mainly dry after early *mist or fog clears*. Most places should have sunny spells, but the North West will be cloudy with perhaps some light rain. It will be warm, with light winds.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with outbreaks of *drizzle or light rain*. Drier, clearer weather will follow from the west. The west will be breezy with normal temperatures. The east will have *light winds and will feel warm*.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E Midlands, E England, Central N England:** early mist, then dry with sunny spells. Wind northwesterly, light. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Central S England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** dry with sunny spells, cloudier later. Wind northwesterly light, later southwesterly. Warm. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District:** becoming cloudy with perhaps *light rain. Wind* southwesterly, light to moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ ***Isle of Man, SW Scotland,*** **Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** becoming cloudy with light rain or drizzle. Wind southwesterly *moderate*, locally fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** dry with sunny spells. Wind southwesterly, light to moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain. *Wind southwesterly fresh, locally* strong. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** warm and sunny at first, *cooler and cloudy in the north* later.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale, h=hail; r=rain, sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun, t=thunder

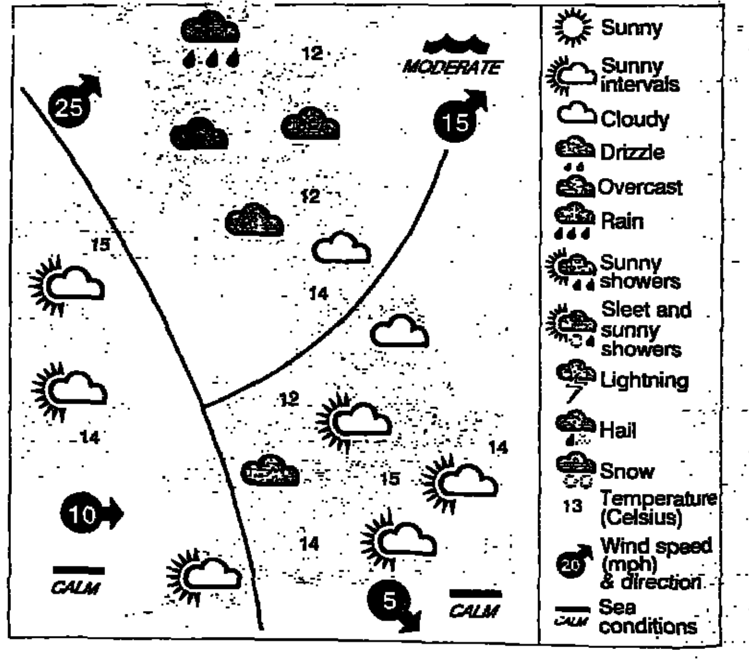
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.7	0.08	15	59	r
Anglesey	5.7	0.01	16	61	sh
Aspatria	0.5	0.01	13	55	sh
Aviemore	1.8	0.11	14	57	r
Belfast	2.8	0.01	14	57	sh
Birmingham	3.8	0.01	15	59	b
Bognor R	5.0	-	18	64	b
Bournem'th	6.4	-	17	63	s
Bristol	4.5	-	17	63	b
Buxton	2.7	0.70	11	52	s
Cardiff	5.1	0.01	15	59	s
Clacton	6.6	0.13	14	57	b
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	7.0	0.01	14	57	s
Cromer	0.4	0.09	12	54	r
Eastbourne	4.9	-	17	63	c
Edinburgh	4.0	0.01	15	59	b
Eskdalemuir	3.6	0.01	13	55	sh
Exmouth	5.4	-	16	61	s
Falmouth	6.6	-	15	59	c
Folkestone	3.1	0.01	16	61	b
Glasgow	2.3	0.01	14	57	sh
Guernsey	5.2	0.01	15	59	s
Hastings	4.5	-	18	64	c
Hayling I.	4.9	0.02	17	63	b
Herne Bay	1.9	-	15	59	c
Hove	3.3	-	18	64	b
Hunstanton	X	0.04	13	55	c
Isle of Man	2.4	0.10	13	55	b
Jersey	6.6	-	15	59	s
Kinloss	0.6	0.48	14	57	sh
Leeds	X				
Lerwick	-	0.09	9	48	r
Leuchars	2.9	0.02	17	63	b
Littlehmptn	X	-	17	63	b
London	3.8	0.01	16	61	b
Lowestoft	0.2	0.10	13	55	sh
Manchester	0.8	0.19	13	55	c
Margate	5.2	0.02	15	59	c
Minehead	7.3	0.01	15	59	s
Morecambe	4.0	0.02	13	55	b
Newcastle	9.2	-	16	61	s
Newquay	7.5	0.01	14	57	b
Norwich	0.3	0.08	13	55	c
Oxford	7.5	0.01	16	61	b
Penzance	X	0.01	17	63	s
Poole	5.0	-	17	63	s
Prestatyn	X	0.04	13	55	b
Ross-o-wye	4.0	-	15	59	b
Ryde	5.5	-	16	61	b
Salcombe	7.2	-	17	63	s
Sandown	6.0	-	17	63	b
Sauntn Snd	5.2	-	14	57	s
Scarboro'	4.3	0.03	14	57	s
Shanklin	X	-	X	X	b
Shrewsbury	4.3	0.06	15	59	b
Southend	0.7	-	16	61	c
Southport	5.7	0.02	13	55	s
Southsea	4.5	-	17	63	s
Stornoway	0.6	0.06	12	54	d
Swanage	7.3	-	17	63	b
Teignmouth	6.0	-	17	63	b
Tenby	6.9	-	15	59	s
Tiree	1.7	0.04	12	54	sh
Torquay	6.5	-	17	63	s
Tynemouth	X				
Ventnor	9.5	0.01	17	63	s
Weymouth	5.0	0.01	17	63	s

ABROAD

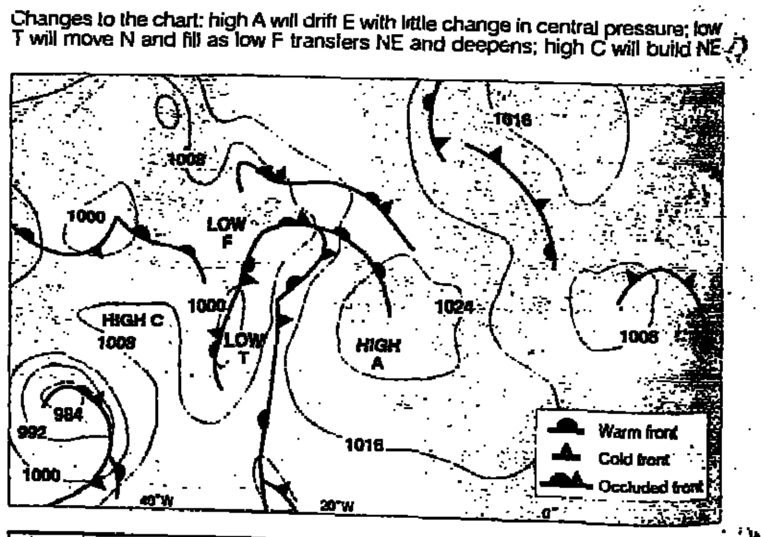
Ajaccio	20	68	s	Corfu	15	59	f	Majorca	21	70	s	Rome	14	57	r
Akrotiri	18	64	s	C'phagn	11	52	f	Malaga	25	77	s	S Fr'sco	14	57	f
Alex'dria	19	66	c	Dublin	12	54	r	Malta	15	59	r	S Paulo	26	79	f
Algiers	23	73	f	Dubrovnik	13	55	f	Melb'rne	25	77	s	Salzburg	14	57	f
Amst'dm	14	57	c	Faro	23	73	s	Mexico C	22	72	s	Santiago	26	79	s
Athens	18	64	s	Florence	17	63	c	Miami	31	88	f	Seoul	19	66	s
B Aires	17	63	s	Frankfurt	13	55	c	Milan	19	66	s	Sing'por	30	86	f
Bahrain	28	82	s	Funchal	19	66	f	Montreal	6	43	fg	St'kholm	14	57	s
Bangkok	34	93	f	Geneva	14	57	c	Moscow	12	54	s	Strasb'rg	15	59	c
Barbados	30	86	f	Gibraltar	27	81	s	Munich	15	59	f	Sydney	25	77	s
Barcelona	20	68	s	Helsinki	13	55	s	N Delhi	35	95	s	Tangier	22	72	s
Beirut	19	66	f	Hong K	29	84	s	N York	14	57	s	Tel Aviv	19	66	f
Belgrade	17	63	s	Innsbrck	16	61	f	Nairobi	24	75	s	Tenerife	25	77	s
Berlin	13	55	c	Istanbul	17	63	s	Naples	17	63	f	Tokyo	15	59	r
Bermuda	21	70	f	Jeddah	32	90	s	Nice	18	64	s	Toronto	8	46	c
Biarritz	14	57	r	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Oslo	11	52	s	Tunis	22	72	f
Borde'x	15	59	d	L Angels	19	66	s	Paris	15	59	c	Valencia	27	81	s
Brussels	14	57	r	L Palmas	23	73	s	Peking	27	81	f	Vanc'ver	9	48	r
Budapest	21	70	s	Le Tquet	12	54	f	Perth	20	68	c	Venice	17	63	f
Cairo	22	72	s	Lisbon	25	77	s	Prague	15	59	f	Vienna	16	61	c
Cape Tn	19	66	s	Locarno	17	63	s	Reykjavik	10	50	f	Warsaw	19	66	f
Ch'church	16	61	s	Luxembg	10	50	d	Rhodes	19	66	s	Wash'ton	19	66	f
Chicago	16	61	s	Luxor	30	86	s	Rio de J	32	90	f	Wel'ngton	15	59	s
Cologne	14	57	c	Madrid	23	73	s	Riyadh	38	100	s	Zurich	17	63	f

Temperatures at midday local time on Monday X - not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart: high A will drift E with little change in central pressure; low T will move N and fill as low F transfers NE and deepens; high C will build NE



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	07.49	6.3	20.09	6.1
Aberdeen	07.33	3.5	20.33	3.5
Avonmouth	00.45	11.0	13.19	10.7
Belfast	05.04	3.1	17.58	3.0
Cardiff	00.31	10.3	13.05	10.0
Devonport	11.41	4.6	-	-
Dover	05.03	5.7	17.40	5.7
Dublin (N Wall)	05.54	3.6	18.55	3.5
Falmouth	11.12	4.4	23.43	4.5
Greenock	06.21	3.0	19.00	2.9
Harwich	05.48	3.6	18.09	3.4
Holyhead	04.25	4.8	17.15	4.6
Hull (Albert D)	00.03	7.6	12.23	7.5
Ilfracombe	-	-	12.15	7.4
King's Lynn	00.13	5.4	12.32	5.4

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Leith	08.50	4.7	21.37	4.7
Liverpool	05.13	8.1	17.54	7.8
Lowestoft	03.48	2.1	15.46	2.2
Margate	05.59	4.2	18.24	4.1
Milford Haven	-	-	12.33	6.5
Newquay	11.33	5.6	-	-
Oban	-	-	12.00	2.9
Penzance	11.00	4.5	23.39	4.6
Portland	00.19	1.5	13.06	1.4
Portsmouth	05.20	4.0	18.20	4.1
Shoreham	05.04	5.1	17.51	5.2
Southampton	04.42	3.9	17.27	4.0
Swansea	00.11	8.0	12.51	7.7
Tees	10.03	4.7	22.58	4.6
Walton-on-N	05.46	3.7	18.08	3.6

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.35 am
Sun sets: 8.22 pm
Moon sets 12.24 pm
Moon rises 2.28 am

Last quarter today

London 8.22 pm to 5.33 am
Bristol 8.32 pm to 5.42 am
Edinburgh 8.50 pm to 5.29 am
Manchester 8.37 pm to 5.34 am
Penzance 8.40 pm to 5.58 am

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هكذا من الاعلام

Election 97: who wins the Oscars?

PAPER ROUND

Brian MacArthur

For newspaper pundits it has been the most frustrating general election for 50 years. At the past three elections we have been appalled but entertained by the three main "Tory tabloids" — *The Sun*, the *Daily Mail* and *The Express* — as they savaged Michael Foot and Neil Kinnock.

The bias was blatant but the journalism was brilliant. Kelvin MacKenzie's front page on voting day in 1992 — "If Neil Kinnock wins today will the last person to leave Britain please turn out the lights" — is still remembered, still framed on office walls, five years later. As Joe Haines, once Harold Wilson's press secretary, observed acidly in *The Mirror*, if John Major were caught spending the nation's cash on a French actress. *The Express* would praise his concern for the arts and the *Daily Mail* would see it as further proof of his dedication to Europe.

> 'Fleet Street has given Labour a fair run'

Tony Blair has been determined that new Labour would *not* get the same treatment. That is why reporters have been so frustrated by the "control" shown during his campaign. He has also so transformed the Labour Party that most of the issues on which it was attacked are no longer in the manifesto, and assiduously courted editors and proprietors to sell the message that Labour no longer comes with fangs.

The result has been an election in which Fleet Street and the "Tory" tabloids have given Labour an unprecedentedly fair run. No bias, no comment. With *The Sun*, with sales of 4 million a day, declaring for Mr Blair from the outset, the newspaper map was transformed. Eight out of ten of *The Sun*'s 160 reports on Labour since April 1 have been neutral or favourable. So were about seven out of ten in *The Express* and the *Daily Mail*. The most partisan paper has been *The Mirror* for Labour. *The Daily Telegraph* has been least negative to the Tories and the *Daily Mail* most critical of Labour.

Yet nothing so thrills the blood of newspaper editors as a general election. An analysis by the MORI subsidiary, Test Research, sponsored by Shandwick, shows that there have been a total of 3,324 articles in the national daily and Sunday newspapers, with *The Times* publishing the most — 471 — since April 1.

With only one day of campaigning left, it is time to assess the coverage and for *Paper Round* to make its awards.

Most stirring front page. "Read this and Weep... Now get Angry" proclaimed *The Mirror* on April 18 as it devoted all its front page to a phone call from a nurse describing at the end of an 18-hour shift how she had watched a young man die on her ward. There were no pictures, only words.

Most acid critic of Tony Blair. *The Daily Telegraph*. Mr Blair wouldn't sell his granny, it said; he would privatise her. Editor Charles Moore has derided Mr Blair as a "man of doublethink" and "proven shiftiness".

Most influential report. "Sleaze: the evidence" in *The Guardian* on March 22. It provoked Tory MP Tim Smith to stand down, put Neil Hamilton in the dock, provoked three weeks of damaging anti-Tory sleaze headlines, and led Martin Bell to Tatton.

Most disillusioned supporter of Mr Blair. Andrew Marr, Editor of *The Independent*, who has been repeatedly upset by Mr Blair, particularly on the subject of Europe. "Politicians, cowed by a handful of millionaires and xenophobic newspapers, haven't the guts to stand up for it... Labour members find their core beliefs publicly reflected better by the Lib Dems than by their own leadership."

Most dogged critic of Mr Blair. Peter Hitchens of *The Express* (who also wrote letters to *The Times* and *The Spectator*). He has constantly harried the Labour leader about his plans to stop other parents following his example of sending their children to grant-maintained schools, earning the most tactless rebuke of the campaign: "We may not call you again if you're going to be bad."

Biggest nightmare. Polly Toynbee in *The Independent* who dreamt that Labour lost. "At 4am on May 2 I am planning a special exit poll of my own in which I shall stand in the High Street... and ask people how they voted. If they say Tory, I will shoot them, a quick exit."

Newspapers that have most relished the election. After 18 years in opposition, there have been no inhibitions at *The Guardian* and *The Observer* about boring the readers, and a relish in their reporting that undoubtedly speaks to their constituencies. "Starting this week: a new era," *The Observer* announced last Sunday in the biggest headlines in its history. *The Guardian* has devoted more space — 56,000 column centimetres — to the election than any other paper.

Star columnist in the making. Richard Eyre, director of the National Theatre, in the *Financial Times*.

"You might find an Iago in Peter Mandelson, a Malvolio in Brian Mawhinney, a Cassius in Michael Heseltine, a Claudius in Baroness Thatcher, an Enobarbus in John Prescott, a Lear in Sir Edward Heath and a Jacques in Tony Benn. Lord Tebbit might make a good Fool and you could find plenty of clowns in all parties...".

Most violent columnist. Polly Toynbee in *The Independent*: "The trouble with democracy is the voters. Listening to them sometimes makes you despair — they are stupid, selfish, pig-ignorant, horrible... one more vox pop from some cretin saying, 'They're all the same, aren't they? They're only in it for themselves' and I'll be reaching for my revolver."

Dumbed down? Only paper to publish the manifestos in full. *The Times*. All the rest published only extracts.

Most bizarre spectacle. Lord Hollick, chairman of United News and Media, owner of *The Express*, arguing for Labour, and Lord Stevens, the chairman, arguing for the Conservatives on a double-page spread in the *Express on Sunday*. Both papers opted for the Conservatives — but at least Mr Blair got more than a word in edgeways.

Most forthcoming proprietor. Lord Rothermere, owner of the Eurosceptic *Daily Mail* in an interview with the *Financial Times*: "Sometimes I think [Paul Dacre, Editor of the *Mail*] would like to tow England out into the middle of the Atlantic. I am not sure that is what I want to do."

As the six-week campaign ends, Mr Blair has won more endorsements from Fleet Street — 11 out of 19 — than at any time in living memory. Dailies for Mr Blair: *The Sun*, *The Mirror*, the *Daily Star*, *The Guardian* and *The Independent* (both suggesting tactical voting against the Tories) and the *Financial Times*. Sales: 8 million.

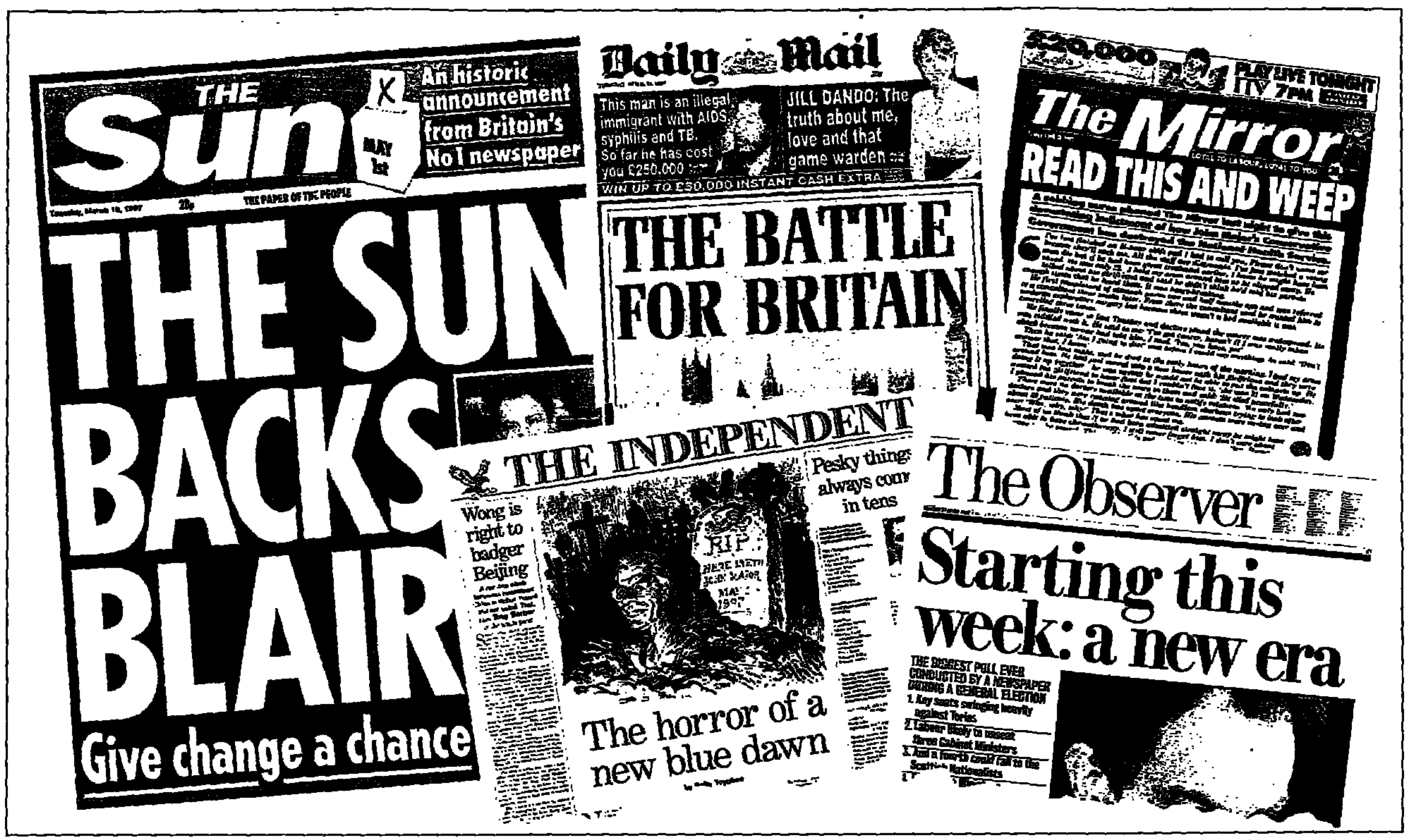
Dailies for Mr Major: *The Express*, *The Daily Telegraph* and (almost certainly) the *Daily Mail*. Sales: 4.5 million.

Eurosceptic: *The Times*.

Sundays for Mr Blair: the *News of the World*, the *Sunday Mirror*, *The People*, *The Observer* and the *Independent* (both suggesting tactical voting). Sales: 9.6 million.

Sundays for Mr Major: *The Express*, the *Mail*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph*. Sales: 5.5 million.

After the last election, the big question was whether it was *The Sun* "wot won it". MORI research suggests that it won't be this time. Readers' declared voting intentions have hardly shifted at all during this campaign.


THE Sun
An historic announcement from Britain's No1 newspaper
THE SUN BACKS BLAIR
Give change a chance
Daily Mail
This man is an illegal immigrant with AIDS, syphilis and TB. So far he has cost you £250,000
JILL DANDO: The truth about me, love and that game warden
WIN UP TO £30,000 INSTANT CASH EXTRA
THE BATTLE FOR BRITAIN
The Mirror
READ THIS AND WEEP
THE INDEPENDENT
Wong is right to badger Beijing
Pesky things always come in tens
The horror of a new blue dawn
The Observer
Starting this week: a new era
THE BIGGEST POLL EVER CONDUCTED BY A NEWSPAPER DURING A GENERAL ELECTION
1. Key seats swinging heavily against Tories
2. Labour likely to unseat three Cabinet Ministers
3. And a fourth could fall to the Scottish Nationalists

Despite the stirring newspaper headlines, MORI research suggests that readers' declared voting intentions have hardly shifted at all during this election campaign

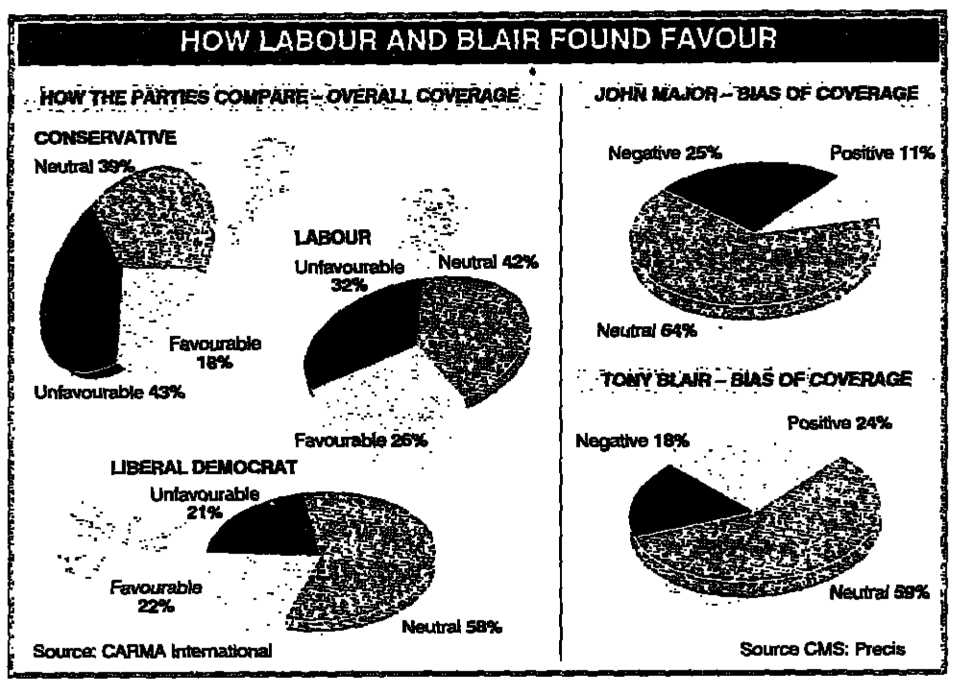
BIASED TOWARDS NEUTRALITY

Researchers examined news stories relating to policies and graded them from -2 to +2 according to their negative/positive bias. The percentage of stories in each scale was used to calculate each paper's bias index towards each party

TORY POLICIES	Cuttings No	Cuttings %	-2 %	-1 %	0 %	+1 %	+2 %	Index
Mirror	152	7	61	17	18	1	2	-134(-118)
Sun	90	4	32	2	48	12	6	-42(-21)
Star	79	4	22	10	47	19	3	-29(-17)
Express	124	6	13	15	60	10	3	-25(-28)
Mail	142	7	14	10	61	14	1	-22(-6)
Telegraph	271	13	7	15	66	6	4	-13(+6)
FT	207	10	3	22	72	2	0	-26(-10)
Guardian	378	18	9	16	68	4	3	-24(-15)
Independent	396	19	9	14	70	3	3	-23(-14)
Times	275	13	4	23	63	7	2	-20(-3)
LABOUR POLICIES								
Mirror	156	5	1	3	42	13	42	+92(+35)
Sun	160	6	4	18	30	16	33	+56(+22)
Star	112	4	3	19	64	8	6	-5(-7)
Express	193	7	6	19	65	6	4	-17(-28)
Mail	227	8	7	25	58	4	6	-23(-34)
Telegraph	427	15	3	13	76	7	2	-8(-5)
FT	280	10	2	14	80	4	0	-14(-13)
Guardian	449	16	5	11	73	7	4	-6(-8)
Independent	489	17	5	8	76	10	1	-6(+9)
Times	391	14	4	11	73	11	0	-8(-13)

Source MORI/Test Research/April 1-25. The figures in brackets are the papers' index score for the first half of the campaign, April 1-11

HOW LABOUR AND BLAIR FOUND FAVOUR



Source: CARMA International

Source CMS: Precis

All the news that's fit to see

Hold the front page: a press museum is making headlines, reports **Ian Brodie**

Allen Neuharth, the founder of *USA Today*, has proved that a museum dedicated to journalism, like a good newspaper or a television newscast, need not be *dull*. The Newseum, *his glitzy $50 million brainchild*, opened last weekend just across the Potomac River from Washington and immediately drew throngs of visitors.

Young and old enjoyed playing interviewer in television newsroom mock-ups and browsing among the front pages downloaded that day from newspapers around the world.

Under the approving gaze of a statue of Thoth, the ancient Egyptian god of scribes, the Newseum displays the history of spreading the news. Exhibits range from 6,000-year-old Algerian rock paintings to an eye-blurring stream of network satellite feeds disgorging breaking news on to a video screen 40 yards across.

Here, too, is a copy of *Publick Occurrences*, the first newspaper in British North America, published in 1690, with the back page conveniently left blank so that readers could add their own news before passing it on.

A glance at a bank of TV screens reveals the Berlin Wall falling, *Challenger* blowing up, Reagan being shot, Kennedy being buried. A mini-cinema shows clips of how Hollywood has portrayed the news business, mostly peopled by tough, scruffy, romantic idealists with a tendency to drink too much and to shout into telephones: "OK sweetheart, get me Rewrite."

As Mr Neuharth would say, that is the who, what, when and where of his Newseum. The why takes longer to explain.

Mr Neuharth is chairman of the Freedom Forum, a foundation dedicated to free speech, free press and free spirit. It is supported by an endowment worth more than $850 million from Gannett, the publisher of *USA Today*, which is America's largest circulation daily.

Several years ago Mr Neuharth and his trustees became worried about growing antagonism between the public and the press. They concluded that the public's standards for journalism are higher than ever, though some journalists may not fully understand that, and that mainstream journalism is better than ever, but the public may not fully realise that, either.

So as well as appealing to busloads of tourists and children on school outings, the Newseum tries to pose serious questions about the power of the media and its ethics. For example, at one computer screen, visitors are asked to decide how they would respond to the following dilemma: a newspaper receives an exclusive tip that a famous athlete, now retired, has been diagnosed with Aids. Should the story be pursued and published or should the athlete's privacy be respected, given that he is no longer in the public eye?

Just such a predicament faced USA Today over the late Arthur Ashe, the former Wimbledon *champion* who *contracted Aids through a blood transfusion. The newspaper* pressed on with its inquiries, but Ashe cut them short by calling a press conference to announce his grim prognosis.

USA Today was heavily criticised at the time for forcing Ashe to go public. At the Newseum computer screen, a slim majority still votes against delving into the Ashe story.

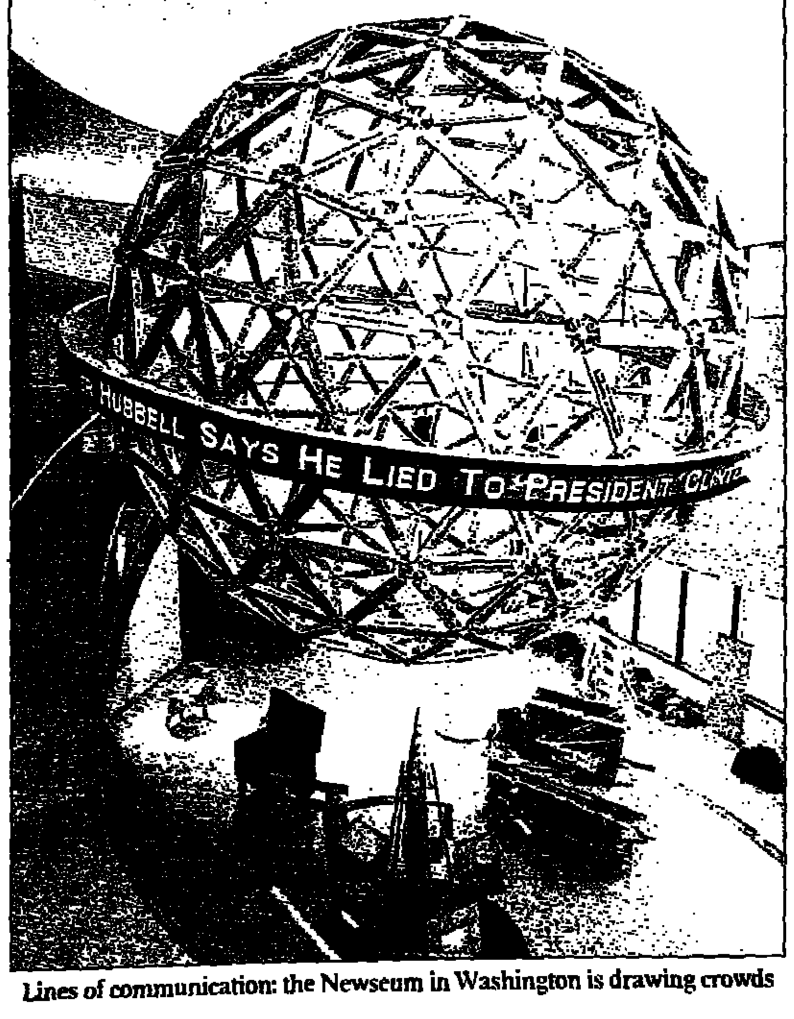
President Clinton himself waded in with biting comments on ethics even as the Newseum was being opened by Al Gore, his Vice-President, and formerly a reporter on *The Tennessean* in Nashville.

In a telephone call to the ceremony, Mr Clinton claimed that reporters under the pressure of intense competition are too quick to accept what he called "near news" as truth. He advised them to return to "old-fashioned" reporting and to check out stories before splashing them all over the front page or on the evening news.

There was a strong element of special pleading in Mr Clinton's comments. He and his wife Hillary, together with their closest aides, are the targets of almost daily disclosures by the largely libel-proof American media over Whitewater and related scandals. The latest barrage has implied, despite strong denials, that "hush money" was paid to their friend Webster Hubbell to buy his silence over his intimate knowledge of the Whitewater dealings.

Ironically, the White House itself has played this guilt-by-association game. It released a report of a purported right-wing conspiracy to plant phoney scandal stories on the Internet and in the British press so they could be picked up and legitimised by the American media. The report lost a lot of credibility in describing *The Times* as a tabloid.

The Newseum is not the place to explore these issues in any depth. It is fun, fast and informative. Better still, it may tempt more than a few of its younger visitors to choose careers as ink-stained wretches or blow-dried talking heads.



Lines of communication: the Newseum in Washington is drawing crowds

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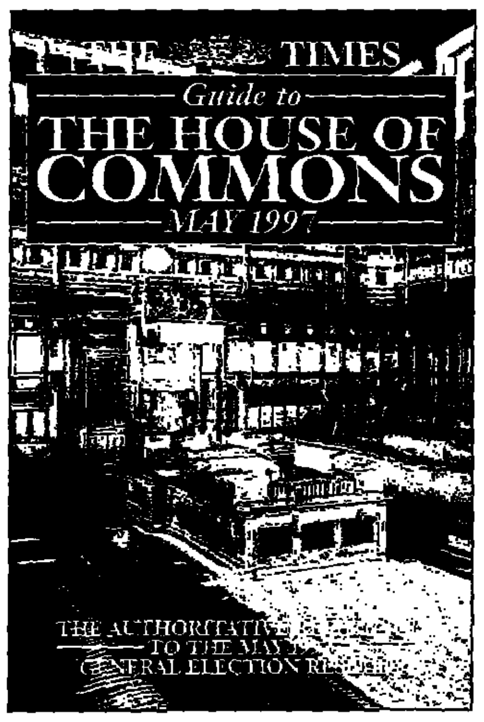
The ultimate reference guide to the 1997 General Election results



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Sears turns to cost-cutting company doctor

The appointment suggests the fundamental nature of BSC's problems, according to **Paul Durman**

DAVID JAMES, the executive Sears has brought in to sort out its ailing shoe shops, loves to get his hands on failing businesses. "It's the bad days which are really the fun," he once said. "The day I stop enjoying the bad days, I'll retire."

British Shoe Corporation has had plenty of bad days in the past few years. Sears's attempts to revitalise the business have all led nowhere. Familiar brands such as Freeman Hardy Willis and Saxone have departed to be replaced by the uninspiring new concepts, Shoe Express and Shoe City. Nothing has worked — least of all last year's debacle of "the sale that wasn't a sale" to Stephen Hinchliffe's Facia Group. Yesterday's results showed British Shoe falling to a £9.1 million loss on sales of £465.4 million.

By Mr James's standards, British Shoe looks in robust financial health. Over the past ten years, he has been the banks' firefighter at a series of companies on the verge of collapse. His casebook includes Eagle Trust, the victim of an astonishingly brazen fraud; Dan-Air, the charter airline that failed to make it through the recession; and LEP Group, the freight distribution company crushed under a mountain of debt. As a council member of Lloyd's of London, he was at the heart of the rescue deal that secured a future for the insurance market.

Mr James's skills are slashing debts, cutting costs, making disposals and, with his lawyers, chasing culprits who might be leant upon to hand back money. He cuts out the cancer, but is not a business builder. That Sears finds it necessary to turn to him underscores the fundamental nature of the problems at British Shoe.

Arguably Britain's foremost company doctor, Mr James loves the job, happily working punishing days of 16 hours or more. Each day starts at 5am with a three-mile run in Hyde Park. Unmarried at 59, his passions outside work are opera and cricket. He is chairman of the English Symphony Orchestra. His boast is that he has never put a trading company into receivership. He and his team, who tend to move with him from one crisis to the next, claim to have saved 23,000 jobs over the past 14 years, and to have recovered £850 million of bank debt.

It is certainly the banks who have most to thank him for. Shareholders have often fared less well. Though LEP's businesses were saved, the parent company eventually went down with nothing for shareholders. Eagle Trust shareholders received only a token recovery of 1p a share. Mr James has previously complained that the days of the company doctor were ending, since banks no longer have the patience for protracted turnrounds. However, the increased activism among institutional shareholders — such as led to his appointment at Sears — has prompted him to revise his opinion.

NIESR calls for higher tax rather than rate rises

By Alasdair Murray

AN influential economic think-tank has called on the next Chancellor to raise taxes rather than interest rates to help to maintain a healthy economy.

The National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) gave warning that economic policy was becoming "unbalanced" with monetary policy too tight and fiscal policy too loose.

In its latest economic review NIESR argues that the high exchange rate is keeping the lid on inflation. But it adds that taxes will need to rise by about £3.5 billion to place government finances on a more sustainable basis.

The institute predicts that the strong pound, which has risen by 15 per cent since last August, will restrict GDP growth to 2.5 per cent this year, well below the Treasury forecast of 3.5 per cent growth. The manufacturing sector will be especially hit with NIESR predicting it will grow just 2 per cent, compared with 7 per cent growth in the business services sector.

NIESR forecasts that inflation will end next year at 2.1 per cent, well below the 2.5 per cent target level adopted by both main parties.

NIESR is also more sanguine than many commentators about the tightening labour market. It believes that there is substantially more slack in the labour market than in 1990 pointing to an increase in the size of the working population. The proportion of the potential workforce not employed is higher at 26 per cent, compared with 22 per cent in 1990.

But NIESR predicts that the next government will ignore its rate recommendations and raise rates by half a point., A separate report from the institute warns that the Government's balance sheet is worsening despite recent falls in borrowing. NIESR says that to place government finances on a sustainable basis the next Chancellor will need to stabilise the ratio of public sector net worth to GDP.

☐ The number of company failures rose in the first three months of the year, although the underlying trend remains downwards. KPMG, the accountancy firm, recorded 340 receiverships between January and March, a 14.5 per cent increase on the three months to December when it recorded 297 failures. But KPMG said the number of receiverships had fallen by 23 per cent compared with the first quarter of 1996. Manufacturing companies accounted for third of all failures, with retail and finance 10 per cent and 12 per cent in construction.

Anthony Harris, page 33

A&L sells estate agency

By Adam Jones

ALLIANCE & Leicester yesterday announced the sale of its commercial estate agency business, Stiles Harold Williams, to a management buyout team for an initial £250,000.

The sale represents the former building society's final withdrawal from estate agency, having written off £40 million for the purpose in 1995. It will have no further effect on this year's results.

The buyout team comprises 14 senior staff, headed by Robert Stiles. The money was raised privately. An additional £25,000, or one third of post-tax profit, whichever is the higher, will also be paid to the bank for three years.

Considering new debt: Stephen Davidson, chief executive

TeleWest to consider $300m 'junk bond' debt

By Eric Reguly

TELEWEST Communications, the second-largest cable company, is preparing to raise another $300 million in "junk bond" debt. Analysts said the new debt is likely to be expensive and could trigger a slide in the share price.

Alan Lyons, analyst at Hoare Govett, said the prospect of another layer of debt has helped to push down the shares from about 120p in February to a recent low of 84p. The shares, issued at 182p in late 1994, closed at 90½p, giving TeleWest a market capitalisation of £835 million.

Mr Lyons said the debt could could carry interest charges as high as 13 per cent, compared to about 9 per cent for its existing £1.2 billion revolving credit facility. TeleWest, led by Stephen Davidson, chief executive, raised about $1.2 billion in "junk bond" debt in 1995, when it purchased the rival SBC cable company.

Charles Burdick, finance director, would not comment on the new deal other than to say the company has made no firm commitment to proceed.

TeleWest would use the new funds to convert the networks to digital technology and order digital set-top boxes for cable TV customers.

Cable and Wireless Communications, the phone and cable company formed on Monday, would like to buy TeleWest through a share swap and wants to see the price come down.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

British Steel cuts 400 jobs at tin-plate sites

BRITISH STEEL is to shed 400 more jobs in a cost-cutting move at its two tin-plate plants in South Wales. The redundancies were confirmed last night as part of a reorganisation after overcapacity in the tin-plate industry throughout Europe and the effects of the strong pound on export orders. The company said it was hoped that the job losses could be achieved voluntarily with union agreement.

About 150 posts will go at Ebbw Vale in the Gwent Valleys and at Trostre, Llanelli, in the next 12 months. The others will also be spread over the two plants between next year and March 1999. The job cuts are the first since British Steel announced a five-year restructuring programme to increase its competitiveness. Ebbw Vale and Trostre plants currently employ 3,000 people. British Steel shares remained unchanged at 144¾p.

Boeing's satellite link

BOEING, the US aircraft maker, is to build a $9 billion network of several hundred low-orbit communications satellites as part of a partnership with Teledesic Inc, the communications company part-owned by Bill Gates, chairman of Microsoft. Boeing will also invest up to $100 million in Teledesic, giving it a 10 per cent stake in the privately held company. Teledesic's other primary investor is Craig McCaw, builder of the world's largest cellular telephone company.

PepsiCo ahead 8%

PEPSICO, the American, food and beverages company whose brands embrace Pizza Hut, KFC, Taco Bell and Frito Lay, lifted first-quarter earnings 8 per cent to $427 million. Sales rose to $6.7 billion from $6.55 billion. Case sales of soft drinks grew 6 per cent, driven by double-digit volume growth for Mountain Dew and solid growth in Pepsi. But international sales were down 14 per cent. The restaurants businesses, which are to be divested, lifted profits 7 per cent.

Optometrics deal off

SHARES in Optometrics are expected to fall sharply today after the engineering group said yesterday that the previously announced deal for Peter Levine to buy 52.9 per cent of the shares had been called off. Mr Levine and other potential investors said they had halted plans after following due diligence procedures. Mr Levine had intended to became chairman. The Levine deal had been announced on April 14 at a share price of 16½p, against 23½p, up 1p, last night.

Seeboard cuts prices

SEEBOARD, the electricity company serving two million customers in Kent, Sussex and Surrey, is cutting electricity prices from July 1. Typical annual bills will fall by about £10, while those paying by direct debit will save £14. Standing charges are being cut for the third year in a row, this time by around 25 per cent. At £3.26 a quarter, charges for standard domestic customers have been reduced by more than two thirds in the past five years, Seeboard said.

Guardian growth plan

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE, the insurance group, said trading in the first three months of 1997 had been "satisfactory". Speaking to the company's annual meeting, Lord Hambro, chairman, said the group had a "clear strategy for the future". He confirmed that it intended to expand the life and health insurance business both organically and by acquisition, but stressed the company would not "be tempted to pay too much for any business".

Warning by Stylo

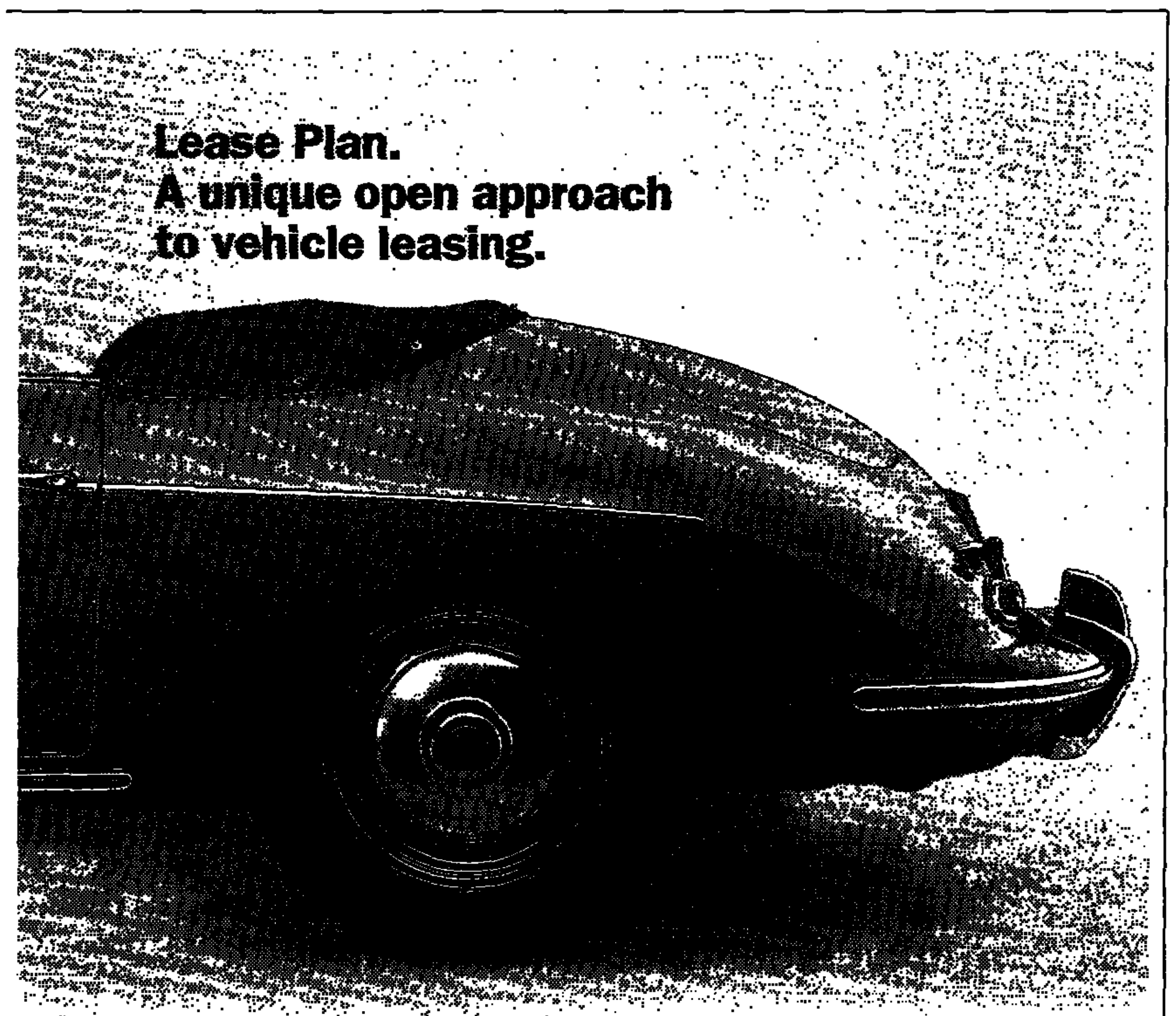
STYLO, the footwear and sportwear group that bought Hush Puppies from Sears in September, has said that it is unlikely to turn the acquisition into profit until August. The company, which expected Hush Puppies to be in the black from the offset, said serious supply problems had left the stores with a sharp deficit of stock. Together with the Saxone shoe stores, the two acquisitions made a £1.44 million loss. This forced overall pre-tax profits to £2.82 million (£3.86 million) and earnings to 3.5p a share (6.45p). The final dividend is held at 4.66p.

MAM's £250m of credit

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT, the UK fund manager, has raised a £250 million line of credit for use in an emergency. The credit-raising exercise, which was led jointly by JP Morgan, the US securities house, and Royal Bank of Scotland was oversubscribed. In February, Hugh Stevenson, MAM chairman, said the credit line was a matter of "prudence" and was nothing to do with a rumoured share buyback after the company's financial year end on March 31.

Print chief makes £3m

TIMOTHY BRETTELL, founder and chairman of Access Plus, has raised £3 million after selling a third of his stake in the specialist printing company. Mr Brettell was joined by Nick Haigh and Chris Pope, finance director, who sold stakes worth £902,000 and £451,000 respectively. The shares were placed with institutions at 148p each, against the flotion price of 90p five months ago. Yesterday, the shares, which trade on the Alternative Investment Market, stayed at 155½p.



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Lease Plan
A fair deal in an unfair world

Mellon to state view on Co-op row

By Robert Miller, banking correspondent

JIM MELLON, chairman of Regent Pacific, the Hong Kong fund manager that holds a near 4 per cent stake in the troubled Hambros, is expected to return to his assault on the banking group, and publicly state his forthright views on its role in the Co-op debacle, early next week.

Analysts in the City believe Monday's fulsome apology by Sir Chips Keswick, chairman of Hambros Bank, to the Co-operative Wholesale Society for its actions while working for Andrew Regan, the businessman who abandoned his bid for the Co-op last week, marks a watershed for the banking to estate agency group.

This week Mr Mellon, aged 40, who has in the past been a vociferous critic of the Hambros management, has been in "purdah" while he makes last-minute presentations to institutional pension and life funds in the Crown Colony, the United States and Europe ahead of next Monday's partial flotation of Regent on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Fund managers attending the presentations say that Regent made an as yet unreported pre-tax profit in the year ending March 31 of $US30 million, a 40 per cent rise on the previous year.

The Hong Kong listing will release about $55 million and Mr Mellon is expected to use some of the funds to increase Regent's stake in Hambros. Profit forecasts for Hambros are around £7 million, better than the £12 million loss the previous year.

Tempus, page 32
City Diary, page 33

Health insurance seen as a necessity within ten years

Survey reveals fears for NHS

By Marianne Curphey
Insurance correspondent

DESPITE assurances from both major political parties, the vast majority of people believe the National Health Service will be dismantled within 50 years, according to a survey by Bupa, the UK's largest healthcare provider.

More than 70 per cent believe they will need private medical insurance within ten years and one third of the 2,000 people questioned thought emergency treatment in hospital would not be free within ten years. The study, commissioned for Bupa's fiftieth anniversary, found that almost 70 per cent expected to have to meet the full cost of residential care for the elderly within a decade.

However, despite the concerns expressed by those who took part in the survey, there is no indication that demand for medical insurance is increasing. The number of people buying cover has increased by only 700,000 to 5.7 million over the past decade — an estimated 10 per cent of the population. This figure hides a boom in the 1980s and a decline during the recession of the early 1990s.

Consumers have been discouraged by the cost of comprehensive cover and poor publicity surrounding the industry as a whole. Last year the Office of Fair Trading criticised providers for not giving enough detail about policy cover, making comparisons difficult.

Medical insurance is widely perceived as expensive and premiums have been increasing. There have also been a number of disputes over the scope of insurance cover.

Bupa has 45 per cent of the market, down from its peak of 75 per cent in 1970s, while PPP has increased its market share by 4 per cent to 27 per cent.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.18	2.01
Austria Sch	20.71	19.16
Belgium Fr	60.98	56.34
Canada $	2.388	2.212
Cyprus Cyp£	0.875	0.808
Denmark Kr	11.24	10.42
Finland Mkk	8.96	8.26
France Fr	9.90	9.18
Germany Dm	2.96	2.73
Greece Dr	464	433
Hong Kong $	13.31	12.18
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.10	1.02
Israel Shk	5.81	5.16
Italy Lira	2885	2729
Japan Yen	219.70	203.20
Malta	0.650	0.603
Netherlds Gld	3.341	3.063
New Zealand $	2.49	2.26
Norway Kr	12.05	11.22
Portugal Esc	293.50	272.50
S Africa Rd	7.90	6.99
Spain Pta	247.50	229.50
Sweden Kr	13.44	12.41
Switzerland Fr	2.53	2.32
Turkey Lira	225970	211454
USA $	1.722	1.588

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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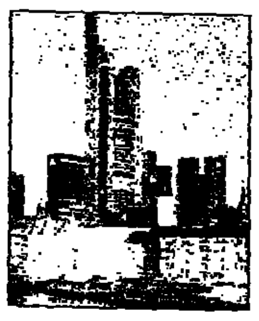
THE TIMES 2

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY



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The tower with its gardens on the inside
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Lutyens gem a walk away from Westminster
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Why football's star turns are facing life on the shelf
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PAGES 54, 55

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY APRIL 30 1997

SFO launches Regan inquiry

By Sarah Cunningham and Jason Nissé

THE Serious Fraud Office has begun an investigation into the "Trellis" payment, the £2.4 million paid by a company controlled by Andrew Regan in 1995 to extend a £235 million-a-year contract with the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The inquiry is a further blow to Mr Regan, who was forced last week to abandon plans to bid for CWS and who now faces civil and private criminal prosecution by CWS. Mr Regan has this week lost the services of Hambros, his bank, and Travers Smith Braithwaite, his solicitor, both of whom have apologised and paid substantial damages to CWS. The SFO will look at the circumstances surrounding the extension of a contract for Hobson, a food manufacturer then run by Mr Regan, to supply the CWS. As part of the deal, a £2.4 million payment was made to Trellis International, a British Virgin Islands company controlled by Ronald Zimet, an Anglo-Isreali businessman.

Mr Zimet resigned as chairman of Freepages, the AIM-listed group, on Monday but retains a 22 per cent stake in the group, worth £30 million.

In a letter to Mr Regan dated April 23, Graham Melmoth, chief executive of CWS, wrote: "Mr Zimet got his instructions from you late on 19th January [1995]. Then, miraculously, only three working days later, Mr Zimet announces that he has overcome the intractable negotiating problem which you say you faced. The deal is then done within hours and you pay him £2.4 million. I find that extraordinary. What did Mr Zimet do to earn £2.4 million in three days."

Hobson was subsequently bought by Hillsdown Holdings, the food group, which passed all files relating to the deal to CWS two weeks ago. These documents were then handed over to the SFO by CWS lawyers. CWS and Hillsdown have said yesterday that they would co-operate fully with the SFO. Neither Mr Regan nor his business partner David Lyons, nor anyone else at Lanica Trust, the investment company run by Mr Regan, or at Galileo, the company set up to make the CWS bid, were available to comment.

SBC Warburg, the merchant bank that then advised Hobson, said it was not aware of the payment when it was made in January 1995, learning of it two months later. It resigned shortly afterwards.

Peter Large, the director in charge of the Hobson account, subsequently left to join Hambros, where he advised first Hobson and latterly Mr Regan's Galileo consortium on its aproach to CWS.

KPMG, Hobson's auditor, said it was given assurances about the payment so that it could sign off the Hobson accounts for 1995. Dibb Lupton Alsop, Hobson's then lawyers, declined to comment.

The SFO will be conducting the inquiry with the Greater Manchester Police and the Metropolitan Police Fraud Squad. The SFO, which said that no arrests had been made, took up the case after the alleged fraud was outlined to it last Tuesday by Linklaters & Paines, solicitors to CWS.

Although it is unusual for the SFO to take on a case involving a sum as low as £2.4 million, it is believed that the case does fit all the main SFO criteria. It is complex, and has an international scope. Also, the SFO is able to obtain interviews under compulsion, which cannot then be used as evidence in a criminal prosecution. This means that the banks and solicitors involved in the negotiations can co-operate.

NOMURA CAN STILL BANK ON CO-OPERATION FROM CRS

By Jason Nissé

NOMURA Bank International, whose sister company was set to finance Galileo's bid for the Co-operative Wholesale Society, is to remain as a banker to the co-operative movement after giving assurances that it had not passed on any confidential information.

Co-operative Retail Services, which has three directors in common with CWS, is set to borrow up to £15 million from Nomura as part of its financing needs this year and met the bank on Monday. Nomura explained then that the role of its sister company, Nomura International, in backing Galileo's bid was a commercial deal and that no confidential information given to it by CRS has been seen by the team working on the CWS deal.

Harry Moore, CRS chief executive, said yesterday he had meet Andrew Regan to discuss the Galileo bid a couple of weeks ago, but had told Mr Regan he could not support his bid for CWS. Mr Moore attacked the CWS for not being willing to put the Galileo offer to its members and added: "If Andrew Regan and this bid has woken up the co-operative movement to radical change we can only applaud this."

CRS tried four times in the past 12 years to persuade the CWS to merge with it, but is now not keen on a merger.

Mr Moore admitted CRS's results were poor. In the year to January 25 it made a pre-tax loss of £13.8 million compared with a profit of £13.7 million the previous year. Mr Moore's salary, however, rose by £9,000 to £277,000.

Mellon's view, page 30; Pennington 31

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4433.2	(+43.5)
Yield	3.65%	
FTSE All share	2134.88	(+16.26)
Nikkei	Closed	
New York:		
Dow Jones	6892.60	(+109.58)*
S&P Composite	786.71	(+13.75)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	95 7/32*	(93 27/32)
Yield	7.01%*	(7.11%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6½%	(6½%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	109 11/16	(109 1/16)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6320*	(1.6247)
London:		
$	1.6313	(1.6234)
DM	2.8139	(2.8040)
FFr	9.4873	(9.4561)
SFr	2.3928	(2.3863)
Yen	206.77	(205.48)
£ Index	100.3	(99.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7245*	(1.7325)
FFr	5.8160*	(5.8400)
SFr	1.4660*	(1.4735)
Yen	126.83*	(126.86)
$ Index	106.2	(106.2)

Tokyo close Yen 126.73

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$18.65	($18.29)

GOLD

London close	$339.95	($340.05)

* denotes midday trading price

Tax rises

The National Institute of Economic and Social Research is calling upon the next Chancellor to raise taxes, instead of raising interest rates. Economists believe monetary policy is too tight but that fiscal policy is too slack. Page 30

Rising losses

Losses at Euro Disney, the theme park operator, increased in the first half of 1997 after a rise in interest payments.
Page 31

Strong in line for £500,000 payoff

By Sarah Cunningham

LIAM STRONG, chief executive of Sears, is set to receive a payoff of up to £500,000 when he leaves the company in June.

Mr Strong, who has faced mounting pressure to resign during the past 18 months, is on a two-year contract and was paid £412,000 last year. He will receive a year's salary plus some pension contributions when he leaves, the company said yesterday.

Sears confirmed that, after repeated delays, it is to sell Freemans, its mail-order arm, to Littlewoods. The price is £367.5 million, but Sears is expected to net only £318 million from the deal, which is subject to Monopolies and Mergers Commission approval. The cash will go towards a £370 million special dividend (equivalent to 24p a share) at the end of this year. Investors were originally promised £410 million.

Selfridges is to be spun off and analysts estimate that it will be worth about £580 million as a standalone business.

David James, a leading company doctor, has been brought in as executive chairman of the struggling British Shoe Corporation. Sir Bob Reid, chairman of Sears, said several buyers have been sniffing around each of the four British Shoe chains. Dolcis and Cable & Co may be retained as part of the clothing business which will form the core of the new Sears.

Mr James says the main problem is with Shoe Express. The management at Shoe City has convinced him they believe in the brand's possibilities but claim it suffered from being restricted to a narrow range. He said "I have to act fast." He described BSC as "a painful boil which has to be lanced."

Sir Bob said Sears may sell majority stakes in some of the shoe businesses, but keep a minority share. No closures are expected by the company. Mr Strong said the shoe business had property worth £80 million, meaning that the maximum write-off that may arise would be £120 million.

Mr Strong, who has been chief executive for five years, delivered his last set of group results yesterday. In the year to January 31, Sears made a pre-tax profit of £68.1 million against a loss of £119.7 million a year ago. The final dividend stays at 2.9p. The total remains at 3.95p.

Sir Bob said the current low Sears share price reflected an undervaluation of the assets. The shares were unchanged yesterday at 77½p. Sean Eddie, retail analyst at NatWest Markets, said the restructuring looked complex and "not been fully thought out".

Company doctor, page 30
Pennington, page 31

DES JENSON

Liam Strong, left, awaits a payoff from Sir Bob Reid after his long-awaited departure

Carlton talks to BT on digital TV link

By Eric Reguly

A GROUP led by Carlton Communications has opened negotiations with BT to form an alliance to launch digital TV in terrestrial form.

The move is part of BT's effort to become a significant player in the digital broadcasting business, which will give viewers the choice of more than 200 channels when it is launched by early 1998.

Carlton and its partners in the British Digital Broadcasting (BDB) consortium have asked BT to devise ways to make the BDB set-top boxes interactive, allowing services such as home banking and shopping. BT would share in the revenue generated by these services in exchange for subsidising their retail price.

BDB's shareholders are Carlton, Granada and BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*. BDB will learn next month whether it has won the licence to start digital terrestrial TV. Its only rival is the Digital Television Network, led by International CableTel, the US cable group.

BT is forming a parallel alliance to help BSkyB to launch digital satellite TV. BT and its partners — Matsushita, owner of the Panasonic electronics brand, and Midland Bank — have tentatively agreed to become shareholders in the Interactive Services Company (Isco), which will spend about £500 million to subsidise the prices of BSkyB's digital set-top boxes.

The talks to form Isco are said to be complete. BSkyB and BT plan to announce the company after the election.

Five years on, and chief finally concedes defeat

By Sarah Cunningham

WHEN Liam Strong delivered the Sears year-end results for 1992, his first year in charge, he said his main task was to turn around British Shoe Corporation. He has said essentially the same thing every year since. Finally, as he prepared to leave the group yesterday, he admitted that he had failed.

"I've failed to extract value from the shoe business," he conceded. However, he still insisted: "We've succeeded in creating two excellent businesses in clothing and Selfridges."

Judgment in the City was less generous. "He was clearly the wrong man when he was brought in to do the job," one institutional shareholder said. "Compare Sears with what has happened at Burton under new management."

Mr Strong was brought in from British Airways in 1992 to shake up the sprawling business. He sold off the shoe factories, along with Galliford housebuilding, Fosters and Your Price menswear. More recently, Olympus Sports and Hush Puppy shoes have been sold. In 1994 he felt confident enough to say "We are no longer in the recovery phase."

He spoke too soon. In 1995-96, Sears made a pre-tax loss of £119.7 million. This year has also been grim. Sir Bob Reid, chairman, supported Mr Strong to the last and paid tribute to him yesterday. His was a lone voice.

City Diary, page 33

APV may be bid target

By Oliver August

A STOCK EXCHANGE inquiry is likely after heavy trading in shares in APV yesterday ahead of the company's disclosure of a bid approach.

Almost 15 million shares were traded yesterday afternoon. The normal turnover of APV shares is between one and two million shares per day. The shares rose from 66p to 71p, valuing the business at £211 million.

In a brief statement the company, which manufactures equipment for the food and drinks industry, said: "The board has received an indication of interest which may result in an offer being made for the company. It is not clear at this stage whether this approach will or will not lead to an offer being made."

APV said it "will keep shareholders informed of developments". The group and its advisers refused all further comment after the announcement.

APV has suffered a prolonged period of underperformance despite extensive restructuring.

Tempus, page 32

US data helps to restore FT-SE

By Alasdair Murray

THE London markets showed no signs of pre-election nerves yesterday as the pound and the FT-SE 100 index climbed back towards recent highs.

The index closed up 43.5 points at 4,433.2, just 11 points shy of its record, after weaker than expected US employment data calmed fears that interest rates would rise later this month in America.

The US data also pushed the pound higher against the dollar, closing up nearly a cent at $1.6310. Sterling gained nearly a pfennig against the mark to finish trading at DM2.8127. The pound's trade-weighted index climbed from 99.3 to 100.3.

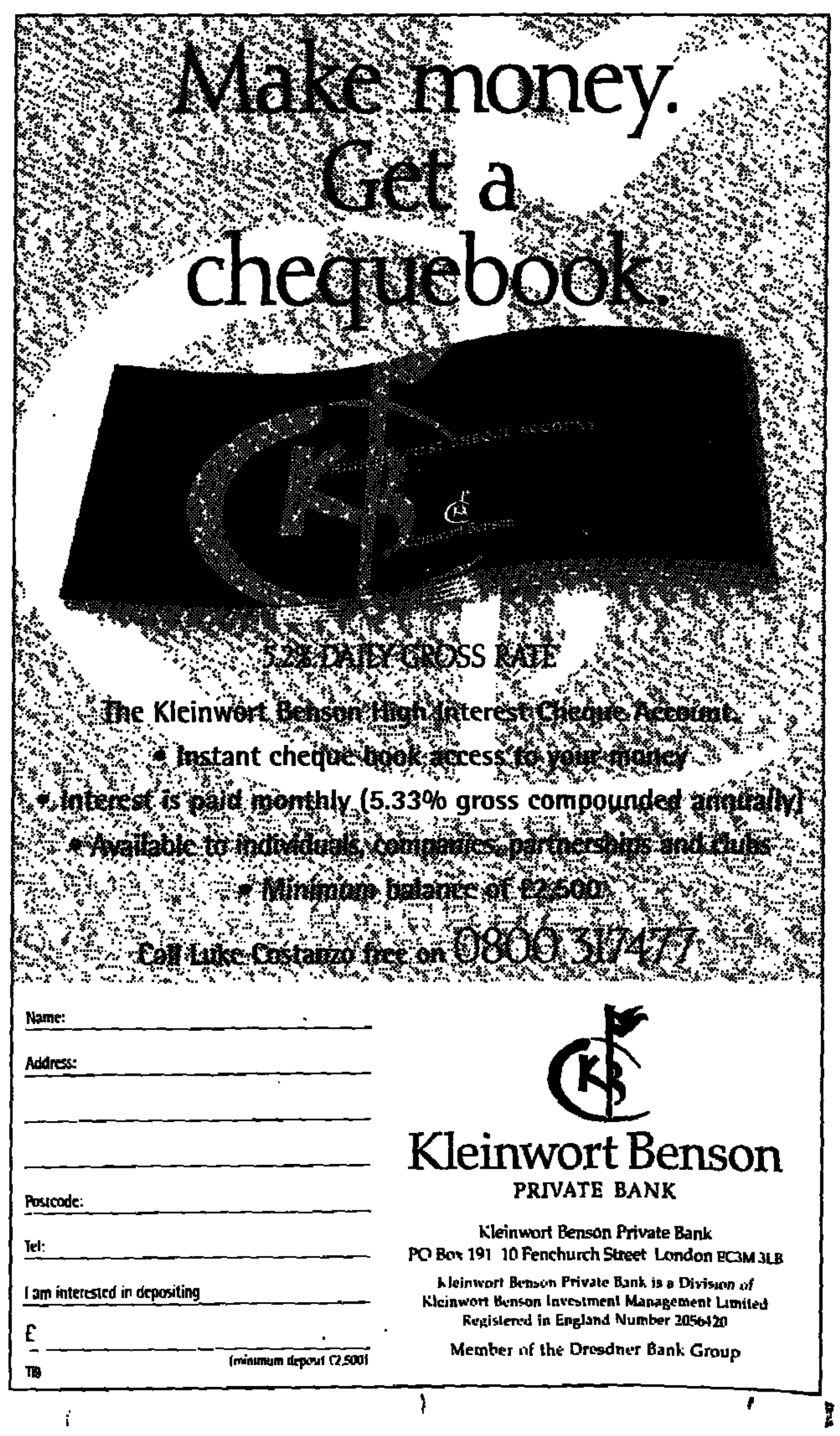
Traders said the lack of concern about the expected Labour victory was surprising given the party's historically unhappy relationship with the markets and that a substantial Labour victory was already discounted in the price of shares and sterling. The only outcome likely to upset the market on Friday morning would be a hung Parliament which could result in a big sell-off by foreign investors worried by a period of political uncertainty.

The market was also unruffled by the latest consumer credit figures which showed growth slowing in March. Total net lending fell from £3.06 billion in February to £2.55 billion last month — the lowest level for nearly a year.

Consumer credit fell from a record £1.2 billion in February to £780 million, while mortgage lending was also weaker than in recent months, falling to £1.77 billion from £1.87 billion in February. The credit card element of lending also slipped to £205 million (£340 million). Economists said the fall reflected credit card repayment after heavy borrowing in February.

Adam Cole, UK economist at HSBC James Capel, said that the consumer credit figures are likely to slow further after windfall gains and stronger income growth. But separate figures from the British Banker's Association showed quarterly growth in bank lending at a record £11.4 billion.

Pennington, page 31



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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

L&G driven to record by talk of Halifax bid

SHARES of **Legal & General** surged 22½p to a high of 431p amid mounting speculation that it may be the first bid target for the Halifax Building Society after it loses its mutual status on the way to a stock market listing in June.

There was heavy trading in Legal & General shares yesterday, with 6.77 million having traded by the close compared with the normal market size of 25,000 shares. At these levels the group, which is one of Britain's biggest insurers, carries a price tag of £5 billion. That compares with the £10 billion capitalisation that the Halifax is expected to command after it takes its place as a constituent of the top 100 companies.

The Legal & General share price has risen spectacularly during the past couple of weeks, from around the 382p level. It went ex the 10p dividend on Monday.

Brokers are convinced that the Halifax will wish to use its new-found financial muscle and diversify into other areas. Legal & General is seen as a logical target. Business has been booming among the insurers, as figures for new business among personal equity plans have revealed.

Among those also to make headway were **Prudential**, up 13½p at 604½p, **United Assurance**, up 7½p at 474p, **Britannic**, up 8p at 834p, and **London and Manchester**, up 5½p at 416½p.

Elsewhere, share prices and and government bonds put in a late rally to close sharply higher as the threat of an imminent rise in US interest rates eased, for the time being at least.

Investors in London took heart from a surge of 113-points in the Dow Jones industrial average that accompanied weaker than expected durable goods and employment cost numbers.

The FT-SE 100 index, having traded in narrow limits for much of the day, took off after news of the US numbers filtered through. It closed just a shade below its best of the day with a rise of 43.5 at 4,433.2. A total of 916 million shares changed hands. All eyes are now on Friday's US non-farm payroll numbers.

Unilever eased 2p to £16.21½ after a presentation given by Procter & Gamble, its biggest rival, in London yesterday. The American group is threatening to challenge Unilever in a number of key areas in the European market.

Reuters marked time at 624p. The company is due to give a presentation to brokers in New York today.

Brokers had their heads down yesterday busily recalculating their numbers over the break-up value of **Sears**, the ailing Selfridges and Freemans retailer, unchanged at 77½p. This follows confirmation that Liam Strong, chief executive, is stepping down, and Selfridges will be demerged. Credit Lyonnais Laing calculates the break-up value at 80p, while Nick Bubb, at MeesPierson, opts for the highest price tag, of 110p a share.

He values Selfridges at 40p, with the British Shoe Corporation containing a small surplus despite losses in the region of £20 million this year. The rump of the business will be worth another 40p and the sale of Freemans could bring in a further 24p of cash.

News of a bid approach for **APV** came at the close of business, with the price already showing a 5p rise at 71p on turnover of 14 million. The Stock Exchange will no doubt want to know why turnover was so high before the announcement. In after-hours trading market-makers were quoting a price of 85p. The speculators say a bid would be pitched at nearer 100p, valuing the engineer at almost £300 million.

Optometrics closed 1p firmer at 23½p, but is expected to open sharply lower this morning. Peter Levine and a consortium of investors have looked at the books and decided against buying a controlling stake from the board.

Shares of **Mosaic Investments** returned from suspension 9½p dearer at 62½p after the acquisition of Premiership-bound Bolton Wanderers. Mosaic, headed by David Williams, will be re-named Burnden Leisure and will specialise in sport, leisure development and management, with a price tag of £24 million.

The second profits warning in six weeks left **Watmoughs** nursing a fall of 87½p at 272½p.

Polypipe fell 3½p to 241½p as Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, placed 6.4 million shares with ten institutions at 236p. The proceeds will be used to help to finance the acquisition of Celmac Group for almost £11 million.

Institutional investors continued to chase the banking sector higher. No fewer than five of them scaled new heights as a fresh wave of cash highlighted the acute problem of stock shortages.

They included **Alliance & Leicester**, up 15p at 574p, **Bank of Scotland**, which came out with bumper figures last week, 16p better at 376p, **HSBC**, up 36p at £16.13, and **Standard Chartered**, 14p dearer at 931½p. **Lloyds TSB**, which reached a new high on Monday, eased 1p to 575p.

NatWest Bank finished the session 32½p higher at 751p, but remains 85p below its best of the year. Other gains recorded were **Abbey National**, 25½p to 851½p, **Barclays**, 45p to £11.61½, and **Royal Bank of Scotland**, 10p to 582p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gains of up to £¾ were seen at the longer end, once again outperforming German bunds, as investors reacted positively to economic data from the US.

The June series of the long gilt climbed £⅝ to £109¹¹⁄₁₆ as a total of 69,000 contracts were completed.

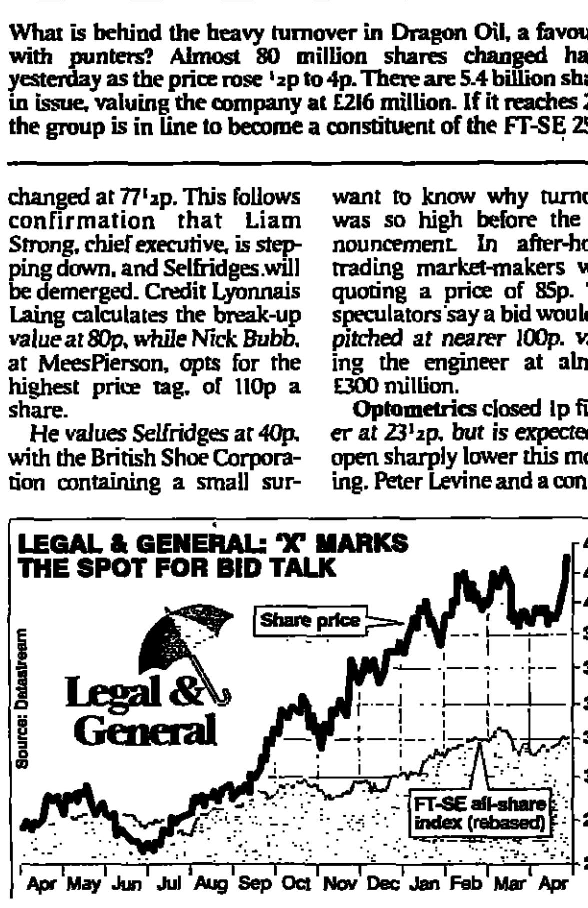
In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished £¾ higher at £102¹⁵⁄₁₆, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was seven ticks firmer at £102⁹⁄₁₆.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares extended their gains at midday, with the Dow Jones industrial average rallying by 109.58 points to 6,892.60. The rally was fuelled by a strong move higher in the bond market after softer than forecast economic figures.

Lawrence Griffiths/Allsport

Mosaic, new owners of Bolton Wanderers, rose 9½p

What is behind the heavy turnover in Dragon Oil, a favourite with punters? Almost 80 million shares changed hands yesterday as the price rose ½p to 4p. There are 5.4 billion shares in issue, valuing the company at £216 million. If it reaches 20p, the group is in line to become a constituent of the FT-SE 250.



LEGAL & GENERAL: 'X' MARKS THE SPOT FOR BID TALK

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	6892.60 (+109.58)
S&P Composite	786.71 (+13.75)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	Closed
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	12600.42 (-9.75)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	763.34 (+13.58)
Sydney:	
AO	2479.1 (+17.4)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	3383.19 (+20.13)
Singapore:	
Straits	1990.20 (-6.59)
Brussels:	
General	12445.61 (+99.80)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2602.86 (+52.61)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	998.50 (+4.70)
London:	
FT 30	2891.9 (+22.2)
FTSE 100	4433.2 (+43.5)
FTSE 250	4507.0 (+10.8)
FTSE 350	2168.4 (+18.0)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2210.83 (+18.36)
FTSE All-Share	2134.88 (+16.36)
FTSE Non Financials	2169.39 (+9.54)
FTSE Fixed Interest	116.73 (+0.12)
FTSE Govt Secs	93.82 (+0.19)
Bargains	57656
SEAQ Volume	919.5m
US$	1.6310 (+0.0073)
German Mark	2.8127 (+0.0073)
Exchange Index	100.3 (+0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4338
£:SDR	1.1906
RPI	155.4 Mar (2.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.9 Mar (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Alliance & Leicester	574	+ 15
Aurora Inv Trust	100	...
Bickerton	38½	...
Cable & Wireless	296	- 3½
Charlton Athletic	57½	...
Close Bros Prot VCT	95	...
Comino	139½	...
Donatantonio	80	...
Heal's	212½	...
Lady in Leisure	130½	...
Methven's	48	...
NMT (50)	50½	...
Newcastle Utd	120	- 5
Northstar Secs	28½	...
Oxford Tech Venture	95	...
Partners Hldgs	167½	- 2
Qualceram (143)	155½	...
Soccer Investments	103½	...
Torch Hldgs	107½	...
United Overseas Grp	70½	+ 1½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ask Central n/p (160)	35	...
Break for the Brdr (51)	1½	...
Edge Props n/p (135)	18½	...
Luminar n/p (320)	57½	...
Pembertons n/p (18)	2½	- ¼

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Brixton	188p (+12p)
Legal & Gen	431p (+22½p)
Nat West	751p (+32½p)
Bank Scotland	376p (+16p)
Ramsdens (H)	380p (+12½p)
Azlan	583½p (+19p)
Close Bros	472½p (+15p)
Flextech	625p (+18p)
Gen Accident	877p (-25p)
JBA Hldgs	810p (+20p)
Ryl Bk Scot	582p (+10p)
BOC	936½p (-21p)
FALLS:	
Cohen (A)	345p (-30p)
Blagden	171p (-10½p)
Eurotherm	417½p (-21p)
Shield Diag	465p (-15p)
Logica	905p (-25p)
Danka Bs Sys	440p (-9p)
Caird Gp	750p (-15p)
Ramco Egy	982½p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 36

TEMPUS

Fattened for the feast

HAMBROS looks like a sitting duck. Its strategy of building up corporate finance, buying in glamour in the hope of bagging some headline deals, has paid off in an unfortunate way. The Co-op fiasco leaves the bought-in corporate financiers looking like mangy toms who deposited something messy and half-dead on Sir Chips Keswick's doorstep. However, the real hunter that Sir Chips has to worry about lies thousands of miles away. Regent Pacific has already declared its unsubtle intentions. The Hong Kong fund manager wants to break up Hambros and, after a public offering of shares in the colony, will be in a position to add to its 4 per cent share in Hambros.

Why is Regent keen on buying a conglomeration of estate agency, insurance and banking? The question provides the answer — Hambros is a classic opportunity for an old-fashioned asset strip. Including its preference shares, Hambros is valued at £558 million but its stake in Hambro Countrywide, the estate agency, has a market value of almost £240 million and a shareholding in Hambro Insurance Services might fetch another £26 million. The bank also has investment in private companies whose book value last year was £124 million. Strip out all these investments and a bidder at the market price has paid £168 million for a bank with a net asset value, as at March 1996, of £295 million.

These numbers suggest the name Hambros has much negative goodwill attached to it and recent events make it clear why. A bidder might wish to take a more cautious look at the Hambros loan book. Even so, enough to excite asset strippers.

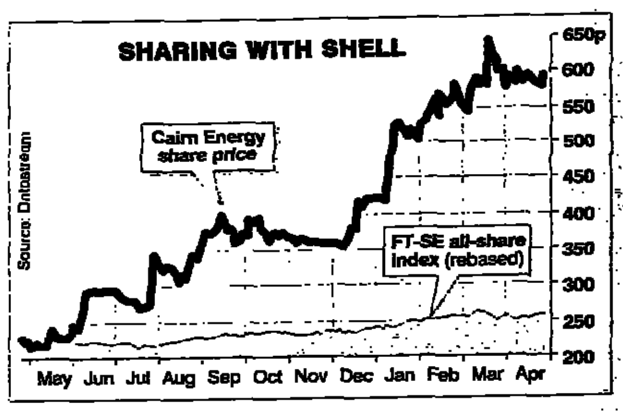
Cairn Energy

SHELL answered a big brain-teaser yesterday: what is Cairn's Sangu discovery really worth? Unfortunately, the answer is somewhat disappointing and it reveals how far market valuations can drift from the hard-nosed reckoning of the men at the drill bit. Shell is paying $130 million for half of Cairn's interest in Sangu, a $50 million discount from recent valuations of Sangu by some analysts.

A dilutive deal with Shell ought not to be good news but in a wider sense it is irrelevant. The partnership is not about Sangu but about future acreage and, in typically bullish fashion, Cairn reckons that the deal will bring with it the chance of a share in more acreage, bigger projects and the export of gas to India.

The alliance has an even wider remit, covering territory in India and more than a hint that the proposed partnership could seek opportunities further afield. Cairn's management has knowledge of the gasfields in Burma, another politically sensitive area in which little Cairn might act as a useful front for Shell.

In a sense Cairn is not an obvious partner for the oil multinational but Shell's current strategy is to seek bigger positions in the gas chain in developing countries. That Shell is prepared to agree an equal alliance over such a large territory with a small player is no small endorsement of Cairn. Investors should take note.



SHARING WITH SHELL

APV

THE mystery bidder at the door of APV is either very foolish or a rival of the process engineering company. APV has been through so many restructurings that the operations can only be skin and bone. This is not to suggest that APV is a lean and mean machine. The company had too many businesses making too many competing products, and the never-ending restructurings have attempted to cut the business into manageable size.

APV's problem is its market, which has been shrinking. Food manufacturers have been through a torrid recession and faced with several sources for capital equipment, they can dictate prices. With customers the size of Unilever, APV is not in a position to bargain. Meanwhile, these customers are themselves cutting back on surplus capacity and APV suffered a 15 per cent fall in its order book in January. What this industry needs is consolidation with a rival such as GEA in Germany or Alfa-Laval, but competition authorities could easily block a deal. Of course, Siebe once took a pot shot at APV but it would be odd for a company so focused on growth markets to take such a risk.

Euro Disney

"A RIDE, a ride, my Magic Kingdom for a ride!" A fitting lament for Mickey Mouse while he prances around Euro Disney's Paris theme park.

The company, which announced increased low season losses yesterday, desperately needs a new attraction of the calibre of Space Mountain, the thrill ride which opened in 1995. Faced with rising interest payments from its Fr15 billion debt mountain, Euro Disney is having to achieve heroic increases in the number of visitors to its Disneyland Paris park and resort just to continue treading water.

First-half revenues were duly up 12.5 per cent in 1997, after prices were frozen at 1996 levels. This growth is likely to slow a bit in the second half, but the overall increase should still be good, helped by better transport links and the relative weakness of the franc.

However, with the banks and Disney understandably wanting to recoup some of their investment, it is unlikely that any cash will be available for shareholders, including Prince al-Waleed bin Talal, the Saudi Arabian investor, who owns a 24 per cent stake.

Nor is there likely to be any available for a sequel to Space Mountain, discouraging punters from returning. With no end to the debts in sight, the Disney mouse could drop dead from exhaustion on its treadmill.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	975 BID
Jul	1001-1000
Sep	1015 BID
Dec	994 SLR
Mar	1006 BID
May	1015-1014
Jul	1025 BID
Sep	1035 SLR
Dec	1042 SLR
Mar	1060 SLR

Volume: 13433

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1532 BID
Jul	1597 BID
Sep	1616 BID
Nov	unq
Jan	unq
Mar	1580-1571
May	unq

Volume: 11345

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters	
Spot: 317.0	
Aug	312.6-12.3
Oct	305.0-04.5
Dec	302.1-01.5
Mar	301.6-01.0
May	301.5-99.9
Aug	302.5-99.9
Oct	298.5-93.9

Volume: 856

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 28

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	110.25	136.28	91.26
(+/-)	+15.69	-1.91	-1.74
Eng/Wales:	110.84	137.34	91.01
(+/-)	+15.92	-2.88	-1.74
(%)	+9.0	+13.0	+10.0
Scotland:	97.17	117.09	94.01
(+/-)	+10.68	+2.21	-1.39
(%)	+10.0	-28.0	-3.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.25	+0.35
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.55	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Jul)	18.65	+0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	20.30	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	20.30	+0.40

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	201 (n/c)	205 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	173 (+3)	174 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	78 (-2)	80 (-2)
Naphtha	178 (+2)	180 (+2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	168.75-69.00
Jun	168.25-68.50
Jul	168.75-69.00
Aug	170.00-70.25
Sep	171.75-72.25

Vol: 22878

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.55-18.56
Jul	18.64-18.66
Aug	18.68-18.71
Sep	18.73-18.78
Oct	18.75-18.80

Vol: 27170

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)

May	92.90
Jul	95.70
Sep	93.50
Nov	95.50
Jan	97.50

Volume: 601

LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)

May	86.50
Sep	90.25
Nov	92.35
Jan	94.25
Mar	96.25

Volume: 0

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	30.0	30.0
Jun	unq	50.0
Nov		59.0

Volume: 97

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May 70.25-70.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 97	1268	1260	1268
Jun 97	1275	1265	1275
Jul 97	1210	1200	1210
Oct 97	1315	1290	1315

Vol: 132 lots Open Interest: 2977

Index 1259 -5

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2420.0-2425.0	2362.0-2363.0	1694500
Lead ($/tonne)	616.00-617.00	626.50-627.00	173575
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1247.0-1247.5	1270.0-1270.5	521100
Tin ($/tonne)	5655.0-5656.0	5690.0-5695.0	15745
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1610.0-1611.0	1635.5-1636.0	2489175
Nickel ($/tonne)	7280.0-7285.0	7395.0-7400.0	94932

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Dom	420	24½	34	39½	13½	19½	29½
(*435)	460	8	16½	22	39½	43½	53½
ASDA	110	9½	11½	14	2½	5	6½
(*116)	120	4½	7	9	7	10	11
Boots	650	54½	62	68½	9	15	20½
(*695½)	700	21½	33	41	30½	37	43
Br Airways	700	28	43½	54½	26½	35	40
(*704)	750	10½	23	33½	60½	66	70
BP	700	31	42½	57	22½	32½	40
(*707½)	750	11½	26	35½	53½	63	68
Br Steel	140	9½	10½	12½	7½	9½	12½
(*145)	160	2	3½	5½	23	24	26
C & W	460	36½	48	56½	14½	21	28½
(*481½)	500	17½	29	37½	35½	42	49
CU	650	57½	74	83½	21	39½	46
(*676½)	700	27	49½	63½	45	68½	75½
ICI	700	32	41½	55	20½	33½	38½
(*702)	750	12½	20½	33½	52	64½	68
Land Sec	750	51	58½	66½	9½	16½	22½
(*793½)	800	17½	30½	40	34½	41	47
M & S	460	38½	46½	52½	7½	11	15½
(*493)	500	13½	24½	31	26	29	33½
Nat West	750	37	50½	66½	28	46	51½
(*750½)	800	16	30	45½	58½	75½	80½
Safeway plc	330	21	28	34	13	16½	21
(*343)	360	7	15	21	31½	34	38
Sainsbury	300	29	33½	37	5½	8½	11
(*326½)	330	9½	17	22	19½	22½	25
Shell	1050	60	83	97	19	36½	45½
(*1077½)	1100	32½	55½	70½	41½	60	69
SmKl Bch	950	61	86	103½	28½	43½	53½
(*971)	1000	36½	62	77½	54	67½	77
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1800	125½	164½	209½	44	69	82½
(*1861½)	1900	74	110½	152½	99½	115½	128
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAT Ind	500	46	56	67½	16½	30	36
(*523½)	550	21½	32½	44	41½	57	63
Vodafone	260	23	30	36	8	12½	16
(*273½)	280	12½	20½	25½	17½	22	25½
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	500	20½	34	42½	4½	17	21½
(*513)	550	2	12½	20	37	45½	49½
Ladbroke	220	15½	23	26½	1½	5½	9
(*233½)	240	3½	11½	16	9½	14	18
Utd Bisc	220	6½	15½	19½	5	10½	15
(*221½)	240	0½	7½	11	19	22	27

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA	500	20½	38½	47	13	18	23½
(*516)	550	7½	16	24½	43½	46½	51
Thames W	650	50	57	63	26	30½	39
(*682½)	700	23	32½	39½	53½	58	66
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	240	14	22	26	2½	7½	11½
(*251)	260	3½	11½	15½	12	16	21½
Br Aero	1300	33	76½	98½	23½	48½	61½
(*1305½)	1350	12½	52½	73½	53½	75	87
Br Telcm	420	33½	43½	46	1	13½	16½
(*451)	460	6½	19½	23	14	34½	37½
Cadbury	500	28	44	50	2½	12	16½
(*523½)	550	3	18½	26½	28	36½	41½
Guinness	500	19½	36	45½	4½	13	18
(*514½)	550	1	12½	21½	36	41	44½
GEC	360	15½	24½	30	3	13½	18
(*371)	390	2½	10	16½	20	32	35½
Hanson	280	19	29½	33½	1½	8½	13
(*296)	300	6½	18	22½	9	17	22½
LASMO	220	11	18	25½	4½	9	12½
(*226)	240	3	9	16	16	20	22½
LucasVarity	180	7½	13	17	4	9	12
(*187½)	200	1	5	8½	17	21½	24
Pilkingtn	110	6	9½	—	2	7	—
(*113½)	120	1½	5	—	7½	13	—
Prudential	600	19	39	51	12	25½	34½
(*604½)	650	3½	17½	29½	46½	55	62½
Redland	330	25½	29	37½	4½	13½	19
(*353½)	360	6½	14½	23½	22	30	35
R-Royce	240	9½	19½	24½	5½	11½	15
(*243½)	260	2	10½	15½	18½	23	26
Tesco	330	30½	40	45	0½	5	9½
(*359)	360	7½	20	26½	8½	16	21
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4432)

	4300	4350	4400	4450	4500	4550
Calls						
May	165	122	85½	54	30½	15½
Jun	203½	162	128	97½	72½	49½
Jul	231½	192	160½	128	101½	79
Aug	249½	210½	179	148	122	99
Dec	338	—	273½	—	213½	—
Puts						
May	13	20½	34	54	82½	120½
Jun	40½	52½	69	89½	115	145
Jul	58	70	89½	106½	131	160
Aug	74½	89½	108	127½	152½	180
Dec	122½	—	156½	—	198	—

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Abby Nat	800	76½	93	108½	12½	27	33½
(*853½)	850	45	64	80½	31	47½	55
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1150	65	87	112½	39½	60	71½
(*1191½)	1200	42	63½	88	66½	86½	97½
Natl Pwr	500	50½	53	56	17½	22	28
(*535½)	550	21½	26	30½	44½	49	54½
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo W	1150	74½	94½	120½	26½	46	54
(*1187)	1200	46	67	93½	48½	69½	77
HSBC	1600	88	121	157	59	85	102½
(*1613)	1700	45½	76	111	116½	140½	156½
Reuter	600	47½	61	76	15½	24	31
(*624)	650	22	36	50½	40	49	55½
Royal & Sun	460	33	45	53	11½	20½	26½
(*476)	500	14	26	34	32½	41½	47
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Blue Circ	390	31½	43½	50	1½	7½	13½
(*419)	420	9½	25	32½	10	19	26
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Kingfishr	650	29½	51½	61½	5	17½	25
(*672½)	700	5	25½	36	31	42	50
	Series	Jun			Jun		
Br Gas	220	16½	—	—	7	—	—
(*235½)	240	4½	—	—	18	—	—
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Dixons	500	22	33	44½	17	30½	35
(*502)	550	5½	14½	24	50½	61½	65½
EMI Group	1200	75	103½	124	19½	45½	59½
(*1244)	1250	46½	76½	99½	39½	68	82½
Tarmac	120	7	11	13	4½	6½	9½
(*122)	130	2½	6½	8½	10½	12½	15½
Hillsdwn	180	4½	7½	—	9½	11	—
(*182½)	200	0½	2	—	27½	27½	—
Lonrho	130	11	14½	17½	2	5	6½
(*137½)	140	5½	9	12½	6	10	11½
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	260	12	17½	21	7	15	17
(*263)	280	4	8½	12½	19	27½	29
Lloyds TSB	550	38	52½	66	11½	21	29½
(*575)	600	16	28	41	36	40	54½
Scot Pwr	360	25½	33½	37	8	16	18½
(*378)	390	9	17½	21½	21	32	34½
Unilever	1600	56	96	120	25½	41½	54½
(*1620½)	1700	15½	48	69½	85	97	106½

April 29, 1997 Tot: 65056 Call: 39875 Put: 25181 FTSE Call: 17711 Put: 4974

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 97	109-07	109-28	109-06	109-22	69936
Previous open interest: 169655	Sep 97	109-02	109-18	109-02	109-16	411
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 97	100.57	101.07	100.40	100.97	205290
Previous open interest: 293506	Sep 97	99.54	99.93	99.45	99.92	2275
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 97	126.93	127.14	126.38	127.02	71371
Previous open interest: 113772	Sep 97	126.70	127.05	126.70	127.27	290
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 97	125.39	125.58	125.37	125.58	767
	Sep 97				124.30	0
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 97	93.34	93.39	93.33	93.38	21740
	Sep 97	93.07	93.13	93.05	93.11	26657
Previous open interest: 471470	Dec 97	92.85	92.92	92.82	92.90	20488
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 97	96.75	96.77	96.74	96.75	12835
Previous open interest: 1373576	Sep 97	96.68	96.72	96.67	96.71	20667
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 97	93.09	93.15	93.07	93.15	32870
Previous open interest: 321266	Sep 97	93.38	93.42	93.34	93.41	12877
Three Mth Euroyen	Sep 97				99.19	0
	Dec 97	98.98	99.00	98.98	99.00	562
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 97	98.19	98.21	98.15	98.20	7526
Previous open interest: 122639	Sep 97	98.15	98.19	98.12	98.18	8067
Three Mth ECU	Jun 97	95.78	95.83	95.78	95.82	624
Previous open interest: 32312	Sep 97	95.77	95.80	95.76	95.81	358
FTSE 100	Jun 97	4416.0	4473.0	4406.0	4460.0	14025
Previous open interest: 62135	Sep 97	4445.0	4494.0	4436.0	4490.0	324

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7½ Low 5 11/16 Week fixed: 5 11/16

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¼ : 3 mth 6 5/16 . Sell: 2 mth 6 : 3 mth: 6 1/16 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¼-6⅛	6 11/32-6 7/32	5 15/16-6 11/32	6⅜-6½	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-6⅛	6 11/32-6 11/32	6½-6⅜	6 11/16-6½	7-6 15/16
Interbank:	6¼-6⅛	6 11/32-6 11/32	6½-6⅜	6 11/16-6½	7-6 15/16
Overnight: open 5 11/16, close 6½ .					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅜	6½	6 15/16
Sterling CDs:	6 7/32-6 5/32	6 11/32-6 9/32	6⅜-6¼	6 11/16-6 19/32	6 15/16-6⅞
Dollar CDs:	5.56	n/a	5.72	5.92	6.32
Building Society CDs:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6½-6⅜	6 11/16-6½	7-6 15/16

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5½-5¼	5 11/16-5 9/16	5 13/16-5 11/16	6-5⅞	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3 1/16-3	3⅛-3 1/16	3¼-3⅛	3¼-2½
French Franc:	3¼-3	3⅛-3 1/16	3¼-3⅛	3 5/16-3 3/16	3⅛-2⅞
Swiss Franc:	1 13/16-1 9/16	1⅝-1½	1⅝-1½	1⅝-1½	2⅛-1⅝
Yen:	½-¼	⅝-½	⅝-½	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $339.45-339.75 Close: $339.70-340.20 High: $340.00-340.90 Low: $338.75-339.25 AM: $338.95 PM: $339.25

Krugerrand: $339.00-341.00 (£208.00-210.00)

Platinum: $374.50 (£229.85) Silver: $4.65 (£2.845) Palladium: $159.25 (£97.75)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 29	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.1578-3.1693	3.1636-3.1666	¾-⅝pr	2⅛-2½pr
Brussels	57.910-58.160	58.007-58.108	17-13pr	51-45pr
Copenhagen	10.688-10.725	10.705-10.715	⅛-⅛pr	⅝-⅛pr
Dublin	1.0513-1.0556	1.0535-1.0555	4pr-par	16-9pr
Frankfurt	2.8075-2.8171	2.8123-2.8149	⅝-¾pr	2⅛-2⅞pr
Lisbon	281.14-282.25	281.75-282.08	14pr-par	⅛-⅛pr
Madrid	236.44-237.63	237.41-237.63	18-10pr	66-49pr
Milan	2786.4-2794.7	2786.4-2790.2	13-27ds	29-49ds
Montreal	2.2714-2.2816	2.2794-2.2816	0.60-0.54pr	1.18-1.10pr
New York	1.6218-1.6318	1.6308-1.6318	0.095-0.075pr	0.27-0.24pr
Oslo	11.510-11.561	11.544-11.560	⅛-¼pr	⅝-⅛pr
Paris	9.4610-9.4980	9.4826-9.4919	2½-2⅛pr	7⅛-7⅛pr
Stockholm	12.738-12.775	12.755-12.775	⅛-⅝pr	⅛-⅛pr
Tokyo	205.22-206.87	206.67-206.87	1⅝-1⅛pr	3⅞-3⅛pr
Vienna	19.756-19.830	19.791-19.812	⅞-⅝pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Zurich	2.3881-2.3961	2.3916-2.3939	⅛-⅝pr	2⅛-2⅛pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2802-1.2810
Austria	12.15-12.16
Belgium (Com)	35.64-35.68
Canada	1.3978-1.3983
Denmark	6.5760-6.5780
France	5.8255-5.8265
Germany	1.7268-1.7273
Hong Kong	7.7462-7.7472
Ireland	1.5455-1.5465
Italy	1710.61-1711.16
Japan	126.60-126.70
Malaysia	2.5116-2.5123
Netherlands	1.9428-1.9438
Norway	7.0833-7.0883
Portugal	172.97-173.07
Singapore	1.4438-1.4445
Spain	145.58-145.68
Sweden	7.8265-7.8340
Switzerland	1.4672-1.4682

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6302-1.6329
Australia dollar	2.0858-2.0884
Bahrain dinar	0.6065-0.6185
Brazil real*	1.7322-1.7366
China yuan	13.317-13.617
Cyprus pound	0.8295-0.8395
Finland markka	8.4100-8.5260
Greece drachma	442.0-449.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.6201-12.6295
India rupee	57.63-58.59
Indonesia rupiah	3908.0-3976.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4895-0.4995
Malaysia ringgit	4.0924-4.0950
New Zealand dollar	2.3448-2.3480
Pakistan rupee	64.85 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8550-5.9790
Singapore dollar	2.3525-2.3545
S Africa rand (com)	7.1750-7.2770
U A E dirham	5.9050-6.0290

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,100
ASDA Gp	4,900
Abbey Ntl	6,300
Allied Dom	4,300
AB Foods	837
BAA	1,900
BAT Inds	5,300
BG	14,700
BOC	822
BP	12,000
BSkyB	2,200
BTR	6,100
BT	13,400
Bk of Scot	7,300
Barclays	8,100
Bass	1,900
Blue Circle	4,500
Boots	1,200
BAe	1,700
BA	736
British Land	1,300
Brit Steel	4,000
Burmah Cstl	321
Burton	2,300
Cable Wire	2,200
Cadbury	1,800
Carlton Cms	2,600
Centrica	18,900
Cm Union	3,600
Dixons	2,300
EMI	2,400
Energy Gp	2,100
Enterpr Oil	5,100
GKN	1,200
GRE	2,900
GUS	1,600
Gen Acc	2,800
Gen Elec	3,200
Glaxo Well	4,600
Granada	1,900
Grand Met	2,700
Guinness	1,700
HSBC	5,900
Hanson	3,000
Hays	986
ICI	3,000
Imp Tob	629
Kingfisher	3,000
LASMO	2,200
Ladbroke	4,700
Land Secs	2,000
Legal & Gn	6,800
Lloyds TSB	13,600
LucasVarity	3,400
Marks Spr	5,100
MAM	1,300
NatWst Bk	7,500
Nat Grid	14,800
Nat Power	3,300
Next	1,300
Orange	1,500
P & O	2,500
Pearson	1,300
PowerGen	1,500
Prudential	6,500
RMC	1,100
RTZ	2,700
Railtrack	5,200
Rank Group	1,400
Reckitt Col	521
Reed Intl	4,900
Rentokil Inl	2,600
Reuters	11,200
Rolls Royce	1,400
Royal & Sun	6,100
Royal Bk Sct	3,300
Safeway	2,800
Sainsbury	1,300
Schroders	176
Scot & New	734
Scot Power	2,100
Svrn Trent	4,000
Shell Trans	10,400
Siebe	1,900
SmKl Bch	3,300
Smith Nph	1,000
Smiths Inds	1,100
Std Chartd	744
TI Gp	4,700
Tate & Lyle	967
Tesco	4,500
Thames W	1,100
Tomkins	6,300
Unilever	2,700
Utd Utilities	2,900
Utd News	1,800
Vodafone	3,800
Whitbread	1,500
Wolseley	422
Zeneca	1,200

WALL STREET

	Apr 29 midday	Apr 28 close
AMP Inc	35¼	35¼
AMR Corp	91½	90¾
AT & T	33	32¾
Abbott Labs	59½	59¼
Advanced Micro	42½	41¾
Aetna Life	85½	83¾
Ahmanson (HF)	37½	36¼
Air Prod & Chem	69¼	69¼
AirTouch Comm	25	24¾
Albertson's	32¾	32½
Alcan Aluminum	33½	32¾
Allied Signal	71¼	70½
Alum Co of Am	68¾	68½
Amerada Hess	48½	47¾
Amer Brands	53¾	53½
Amer El Power	40½	40¼
Amer Express	65¾	64
Amer Genl Corp	42¾	41¾
Amer Home Pr	64¼	64¾
Amer Intl	122¾	121¼
Amer Stores	44¾	44¼
Amer Standard	42	41¼
Ameritech	59¼	59¼
Amoco	81½	80¾
Andrew Corp	25	24¾
Anheuser-Busch	41¼	41
Apple Computer	17½	17¼
Archer Daniels	18	17¼
Armco	3¼	3¼
Armstrng Wrld	65¾	63½
Asarco	28½	28½
Atl Richfield	134¼	134¼
Auto Data Pro	44¼	43½
Avery Dennison	36¼	35½
Avon Products	60¾	58¾
Baker Hughes	33¾	33¼
Baltim Gas & El	25½	25½
Banc One	42½	41¼
BankAmerica	114¼	110¾
Bank of NY	38¼	37½
Bankers Tr NY	81¼	79¾
Barnett Banks	47½	46½
Bausch & Lomb	39¾	39¾
Baxter Intl	46½	46½
Bectn Dicknsn	44½	44
Bell Atlantic	66½	64¼
Bell Industries	16½	16½
BellSouth	44¼	43¾
Black & Decker	32¾	32½
Block (H&R)	30¾	30½
Boeing	96¼	95¼
Boise Cascade	32¾	32¾
Boston Scien	44½	43¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	63¾	62¾
Browning Ferris	27½	26½
Brunswick	27½	27
Burlington Nthn	76½	76¼
CMS Energy Corp	33½	32¾
CNA Financial	98¼	98¾
CPC Intl	82¾	81¼
CSX	46¼	45¼
Campbell Soup	49½	48¼
Can Pacific	27¾	27¾
Carolina Pwr	34½	34
Case Corp	54¼	54
Caterpillar	88¼	88¼
Central & SW	19¼	19
Champion Intl	46½	46¾
Chase Manhat	90¾	87½
Chevron Corp	66¾	66
Chrysler	29½	29¾
Chubb Corp	56¼	55½
Cigna Corp	148¾	146¼
Citicorp	111¼	107½
Clorox	125¼	124¼
Coastal Corp	46½	46
Coca Cola	61½	61
Coca Cola Ent	59	58¼
Colgate-Palm	110	108¼
Columbia Gas	61¼	61½
ColumbiaHCA	33	33¾
Compaq Comp	80¼	79¾
Comp Ass Int	48¾	48¼
Conagra	57	56¼
Conrail	114	114
Cons Edison	27¼	27¼
Cons Nat Gas	49¾	49¼
Cooper Inds	45¼	45
Corestates	50¼	49½
Corning Inc	46¼	46¼
Crown Cork	53½	53¼
Dana Corp	31½	31½
Dayton Hudson	41½	41½
Deere	45½	44¾
Delta Air Lines	91½	89¾
Deluxe Corp	30¾	30¾
Digital Equip	28½	28¾
Dillard Dept St	30¼	30
Disney (Walt)	78¼	77¼
Dominion Res	34½	33¾
Donelley (RR)	33½	33¼
Dover Corp	53½	53½
Dow Chemical	83	83¼
Dow Jones	39¼	39¼
Dresser	28¼	28¾
Duke Power	43½	43
Dun & Bradstreet	24½	24¼
Du Pont	104½	102½
Eastman Chem	51½	51½
Eastman Kodak	81¼	80¾
Eaton Corp	74¾	73¼
Edison Int	21½	20¾
Elect Data Sys	33½	32½
Emerson Elec	49½	49½
Engelhard Corp	20¾	20½
Enron Corp	36½	37
Entergy	23½	23¼
Ethyl Corp	9	9¼
Exxon	55½	53¼
FMC Corp	65½	64¼
FPL Group	44½	43¾
Federal Express	52¾	51¼
First Bk Sys	74¼	73½
First Union Rlty	13¼	13½
Fleet Finl Grp	60½	59¾
Fluor Corp	53¾	53½
Ford Motor	34¼	34¼
GTE Corp	45¼	44¼
Gannett	85¼	85
Gap Inc Del	31	30½
Gencorp	18½	18¼
Gen Dynamics	69¾	68¼
Gen Electric	108¾	107¾
Gen Mills	59¾	59
Gen Motors	55	55¾
Gen Reinsurance	166¼	164¼
Gen Signal	37¾	39¼
Genuine Parts	31	32
Georgia Pac	76¼	76¼
Gillette	82¾	81
Glaxo Wellc ADR	38¼	37¾
Goodrich (BF)	39½	39¼
Goodyear Tire	52	51½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	24¼	24½
Great Wstn Fin	30½	30
Halliburton	69¼	69¼
Harcourt General	44½	44½
Heinz (HJ)	40¾	40½
Hercules	39¼	39¼
Hershey Foods	54	53¼
Hewlett Packard	50½	49¾
Hilton Hotels	26¾	25¾
Home Depot	57¾	56¾
Homestake Mng	13½	13
Honeywell	67¼	65½
Household Intl	85	82¾
Houston Inds	19¼	19½
Humana	20½	20¾
ITT Corp	58¼	58
Ikon Office	23½	23½
Illinois Tool	90½	89¼
Illinova	22	21¼
INCO	31¼	30¾
Ingersoll Rand	48½	47¼
Inland Steel	22¾	22¾
Intel Corp	149¾	146¼
IBM	152¾	150½
Intl Flav & Fr	42½	42½
Intl Paper	41½	42
James River Va	29¾	29
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	59½	59½
Kellogg	67¾	66½
Kerr-McGee	59¾	59
Kimberly-Clark	49¾	48¼
Kmart	13½	13¼
Knight-Ridder	37¾	37½
Lilly (Eli)	85	84
Limited Inc	18	18
Lincoln Nat	54½	54
Litton	43½	42¾
Liz Claiborne	45½	44¾
Lockheed Martin	87½	87½
Louisiana Pac	18¾	18¾
MCI Comm	38¼	37¾
Manpower Inc	40¾	40½
Marriott Intl	53	52¾
Marsh & McLnn	116¼	115½
Masco Corp	37¾	37
May Dept St	45¼	45
Maytag Corp	22½	22½
McDonalds	52¾	51¼
McDonnell D	59¾	57½
McGraw Hill	51½	51¼
Mead Corp	54½	54½
Medtronic	67¼	66½
Mellon Bk	80½	79½
Merck Inc	89¾	88¼
Merrill Lynch	91½	89¾
Microsoft	116¾	114¼
Minnesota Mine	86¼	86¼
Mobil Corp	125¾	125
Monsanto	40¼	40½
Morgan (JP)	99¾	98¼
Motorola Inc	57½	55½
Natl Semi	22¾	21¼
Natl Service Ind	41¼	41¼
Navistar Int	10¾	10¼
NY Times A	42½	42½
Newmont Mng	35½	35
Niag Mohawk	8½	8¼
Nike B	57½	57½
NL Industries	9¾	9¼
Noram Energy	14½	14½
Nordstrom	38¼	38½
Norfolk Sthrn	91½	91¼
Nthn State Pwr	45½	45¼
Norwest Corp	48¾	47¾
Nynex Corp	50¾	49¾
Occidental Pet	22¾	21¼
Ohio Edison	20¾	20
Oracle	38¼	38
Oryx Energy Co	19¼	19
Owens Corning	39¾	39¼
PHH Corp	47	45¼
PPG Industries	53½	53
PNC Bank	40	39¾
PP&L Res	19¼	19¼
Paccar Inc	74¼	74½
Pacificorp	19¾	19½
Pac Enterprises	30½	30½
Pall Corp	22¾	22¾
Parker Hannifin	48	47¼
Peco Energy	19¼	19½
Penney (JC)	47¼	46½
Pennzoil	48	47¼
Pepsico	34¼	31¼
Pfizer	94¼	94½
Pharm & Upjhn	28	28¼
Phelps Dodge	74¼	75¼
Philip Morris	39½	39½
Phillips Pet	38¼	38½
Pitney Bowes	61½	61
Polaroid	45¼	45¼
Procter & Gmbl	125¼	124¾
Providian	56½	56½
Pub Serv E & G	24¼	23¾
Quaker Oats	39¾	39¾
Ralston Purina	80¾	80½
Raychem Corp	63¼	63¾
Raytheon	43	42½
Reebok Intl	38¼	37¾
Reynolds Metals	66½	66½
Rockwell Intl	66	65½
Rohm & Haas	78¼	77¼
Royal Dutch	178¾	177¼
Rubbermaid	24¼	24½
SBC Comms	54¼	53½
Safeco Corp	40	39½
St Paul's Cos	66¼	65¼
Salomon Inc	50½	49¾
Sara Lee Corp	41¼	41
Schering Plough	79¾	78½
Schlumberger	108¼	109½
Seagram	37¼	37½
Sears Roebuck	47	46½
Shell Trans	105¾	103¾
Sherwin Wlms	30¾	29¾
Skyline Corp	21½	21½
Snap-On-Tools	37¾	37¾
Southern Co	20¾	20½
Sprint Corp	43½	43½
Stanley Works	37¾	37¾
Sun Company	26¼	26½
Sun Microsys	28¾	28
Suntrust	49½	48½
Supervalu	29¾	29½
Sysco Corp	35½	35½
TRW Inc	50½	50½
TCC Inds	2	2
TIG Hldgs	27¾	27¾
Tandem Comp	12½	12½
Tandy Corp	51½	50¾
Temple Inland	54½	54
Tenneco	39½	38½
Texaco	103½	103
Texas Inst	85¼	83½
Texas Utilities	33½	32½
Textron	108¾	107
Thermo Elect	33½	32½
Time Warner	44¼	44½
Times-Mirror A	54¼	54½
Timken	57¾	57½
Torchmark	61	60½
Toys R Us	27½	27½
Transamerica	83	82½
Travelers	52¾	50½
Tribune	43¼	42½
Tyco Intl	59¾	59¼
UST Inc	26½	26
UAL	76	75½
US Inds	35¼	35½
US West Comm	33¼	33½
US West Media	16¼	16½
USAirways Group	31	30
USX Marathon	26¾	26½
Unicom	21¼	21½
Unilever NV	193½	194
Union Camp	48¼	47½
Union Carbide	48¾	48
Union Pacific	62	61½
Unisys Corp	6½	6½
USF&G Corp	19½	19
US Life	47¾	47½
United Tech	74¼	73½
Unocal Corp	37½	36½
VF Corp	70¾	70
WMX Tech	30¾	29¾
Wal-Mart Stores	27½	27½
Warner-Lambert	96½	94½
Wells Fargo	266½	259¾
Westinghouse El	17	16½
Weyerhaeuser	44½	44¾
Whirlpool	46¾	46½
Whitman	23½	23
Winn Dixie	34½	34½
Woolworth	20¾	20
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	56½	56½
Xerox	59	58½
Zenith Elect	11½	10¾

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هكذا من الاعمال

How long will benefits last as US bids farewell to welfare?

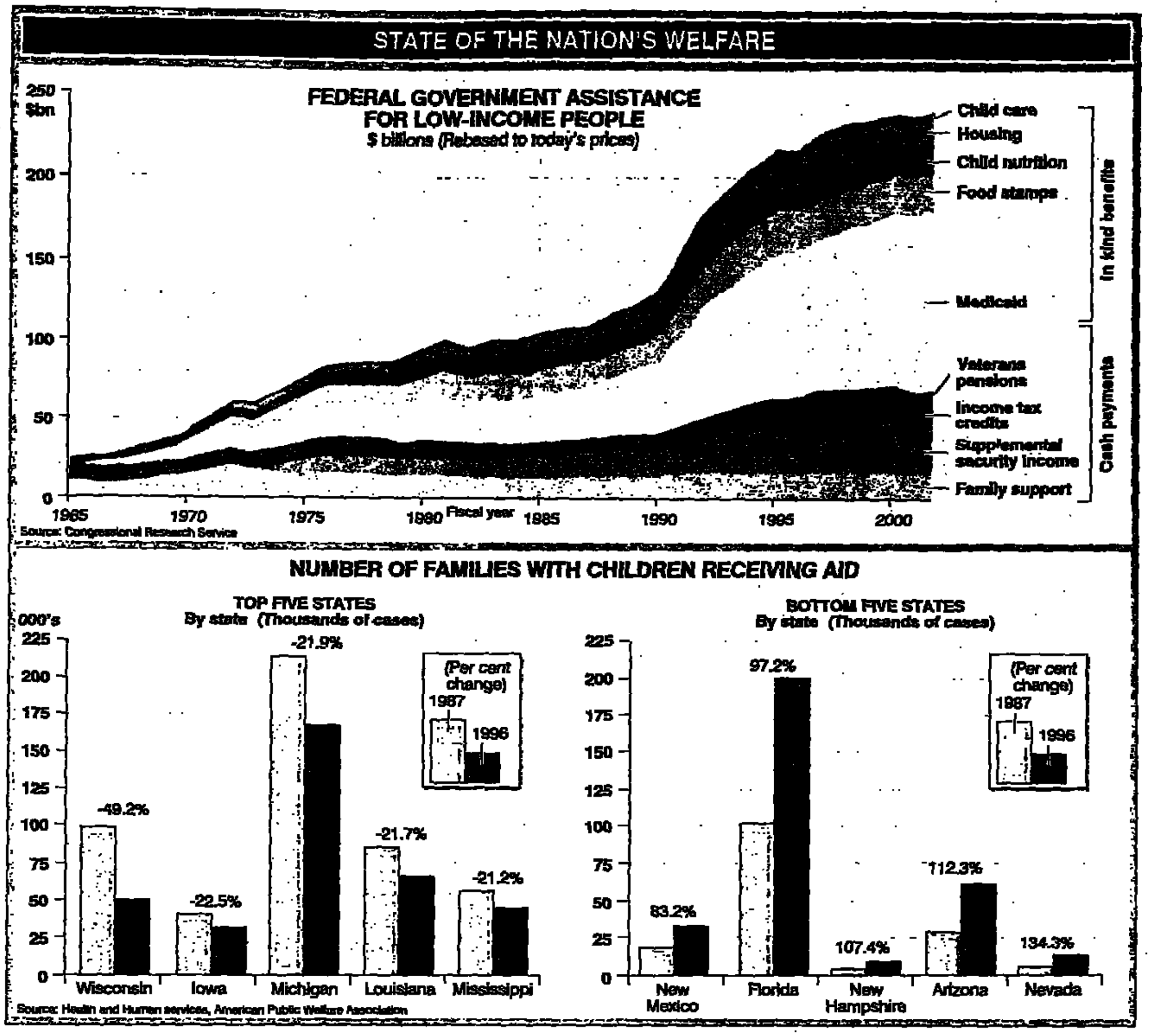
Bronwen Maddox looks at America's biggest social experiment

On Friday, Washington will unveil its latest memorial: a monument to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, inscribed with the 1933 speech in which he offered the United States a "New Deal", including a safety net for its poorest citizens. The tributes do not mention that the US, in one of its most radical social experiments for decades, is now overhauling Roosevelt's legacy with a comprehensive programme of welfare reform.

Whichever party wins the British election tomorrow, it will look closely at the results emerging from the transatlantic laboratory. Both Labour and Conservatives have promised to reform welfare and help the long-term unemployed back to work. Yet so far, each has stopped short of America's bluntness: cutting off benefits for those who do not find jobs.

In signing, last August, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act, which was drawn up by the Republican-controlled Congress, President Clinton promised to "end welfare as we know it". For the first time, the new law set absolute limits on the benefits that a person could receive in a lifetime. States must withdraw benefits from aduts who do not start work within two years. Federal cash cannot be paid to families headed by someone on benefits for five years or more.

The move was driven partly by economic concerns. As the non-partisan Congressional Research Service notes (see chart), Federal Government spending on means-tested benefits has risen for three decades. The cuts represented by last year's legislation have only partly slowed the increase because of the swelling cost of medical care for the poor. But the political moves were driven by a change in public attitudes. It has become common for women with children to work, while Americans have become less tolerant of single mothers who rely on welfare to raise their children. And whereas many welfare programmes were originally targetted at widows and their children, they now support unmarried mothers, who enjoy far less public sympathy.



But will the dozens of different experiments underway across the US work? The definition of success is itself open to debate. To many conservatives, the reforms are justified simply if they cut federal and state spending. To liberals and some moderates, they are successful only if they also improve the long-term welfare of the poor.

Wisconsin is often lauded as the blueprint for success. Tommy Thompson, the Republican Governor who campaigned successfully in 1986 on a platform of welfare reform, blames "classic liberal mistakes" for the leap in its welfare rolls in the early 1980s. People would move to Wisconsin from other states to sign on for its generous benefits, he says, while billboards on the border with Illinois read "Will the last business to leave Wisconsin please turn out the lights".

Under Mr Thompson's schemes, which began years before Mr Clinton's legislation, parents see their benefits cut unless they do some work and make sure that children up to the age of 18 attend school. Since January 1987, Wisconsin has seen the number of families with children receiving aid fall 49 per cent, higher than any other state. This autumn, Wisconsin plans to go further, by limiting an adult to a maximum five years of benefit (in some cases only two years of support) over his or her whole life. Wisconsin makes no exceptions for mental or physical handicap; it also plans to make new mothers do some work as soon as the baby is three months old. "Welfare takes away your vision, your optimism, your ability to think of your self-worth," Mr Thompson says. "I want to eliminate it completely."

In a linoleum-floored classroom in Milwaukee, the state capital, the implications of Mr Thompson's moral crusade are being hammered home to 18 welfare recipients, all but one of them black, all but three of them women, most with small children. "Do not put 'President of a bank' under desired job," insists Jerine Irven, the job-search teacher. "Do not put 'Owner of my own shopping mall'. Do not put 'airline pilot' as someone did last week". To a protest from a young black man that he had always wanted to be a pilot, she retorts: "Airline pilot is unrealistic. You have only a very short time to find a job."

Wisconsin, with excellent public schools, strong economy and falling unemployment (at 3.5 per cent), has found it easier than many other states to cut welfare rolls. But part of the reason for the rapid fall in the caseload comes from the recognition, as Mr Thompson puts it, that "you can't do it on the cheap". The state's spending on providing childcare, to overcome one of the main barriers single mothers face in going back to work, will have risen from $12.5 million in 1987 to $180 million by next year. It also pays $25 a month to those on the job search programme, helps them find presentable clothes for interviews and gives employers training subsidies of $300 a month.

Despite these costs, says Mr Thompson, the state is in profit from the changes. A decade ago, it spent $46 million a month on aid to families with children; now it spends $21 million. On his estimates, after allowing for extra spending, the programmes have saved $1 billion in a decade, split roughly 50:50 between the State and the Federal Government.

Welfare experts agree that mandatory job search projects such as that in Wisconsin — also tried in Arkansas and California — can help a large proportion of welfare recipients find work quickly. Gary Burtless, a senior fellow of the Brookings Institution in Washington DC, says such schemes add to work experience, and so may help people achieve steady rises in income.

However, critics charge that Wisconsin has not addressed the bald fact that some people are incapable of steady work. Social workers in Milwaukee say the programme is poorly equipped to deal with those who are highly antisocial or disruptive, if not actually mentally ill. A study by the University of Wisconsin, which called the reforms "a leap into the unknown", said the long-term effects of leaving so many young children in state-run childcare could be worrying.

From his own 12-year study of single mothers, Mr Burtless says that for a minority — he estimates a quarter — strict time limits "would probably mean that they could no longer support their children at all" and "could cause highly visible hardship and even homelessness". He concludes: "Unfortunately, the earnings capacity of most women who collect welfare is limited. Any humane and effective reform plan must take this unpleasant fact into account."

Those criticisms are rejected by Wisconsin's Governor, who is adamant about sticking to his principle that everyone is capable of work. But although those charges cannot be properly assessed for several years, they do at least delineate the formidable gamble that ambitious welfare reform programmes are taking.

It is, first of all, a gamble on the economy: that growth will continue, and that the private sector will continue to need unskilled workers. Recession could make an immediate and painful dent in the project, shaking out people who had been shoe-horned into minimum-wage jobs during prosperity. Second, it is a gamble on changing human behaviour in the long-term: that strict time limits will deter young girls from having families, and encourage them to acquire skills instead.

The risk of bringing about welfare changes is that the poorest and least capable may suffer extreme hardship. That price will not be clear until the guillotine of time limits has finally cut off benefits from long-term recipients. The problem that may then confront politicians is whether voters, however pleased at the shrinking welfare rolls, will want to see the painful consequences of that social reform on their streets.

Here's to you, Ms Robinson

Charlotte Robinson had been strung out on crack for four days when she tried to buy more. The deal turned ugly. She was robbed and beaten up, losing her front teeth. When she came to, she realised she could not sink any lower. She had been addicted for ten years. She was a single mother of three, homeless and entirely dependent on a welfare handout of $320 a month.

Today, Ms Robinson is a success story, thanks to her own determination and America's most innovative private sector welfare-to-work scheme, pioneered by Marriott International Inc.

She has a full-time job with Marriott as a chambermaid. She has stayed off drugs for a year and has moved into a flat with her infant daughter. She hopes her two other children, now with her mother, can join her. She is saving up for appliances, her own furniture and a car. It has been a struggle for her — and for Marriott, whose task of rehabilitating welfare recipients is both daunting and rewarding. The model may be the future for companies that need low-waged workers.

Marriott's programme is expanding from 16 to 22 cities and guarantees a job to those who stay the course. Some 650 have undergone six weeks of unpaid, on-the-job training, plus classes that bolster pride and teach basic coping skills such as opening a bank account and finding a place to live. Putting a trainee through the course costs $5,000, half of that state-funded. Marriott chooses only the best: one in four who apply are taken on. Nearly 80 per cent keep their jobs with Marriott for more than a year, well above average for hotel industry workers. The longer they stay, the better for Marriott, but the company insists that it counts the social benefits and does not track the programme as a profit centre. The Marriott family are Mormons and J. Willard Marriott Jr., chairman and son of the founder, has said that unless companies invest in America's decaying inner cities, the poverty trap will remain in place.

CASE STUDY

Others may be less altruistic but interest in welfare-to-work is growing. Sixty-three organisations and companies have just attended a seminar to learn how Marriott does it.

Each course demands countless extra hours of nurturing by Marriott's personnel staff. They hunt down absentees and drive them to class, go shopping with trainees for clothes, haggle with landlords, negotiate with case workers and even sort out family fights. Janet Tully, programme director, says that many welfare recipients are keen to work but have no idea how to operate within the system and tend to blame others for their troubles.

Ms Robinson was among 12 trainees from Washington, all homeless and black, who celebrated completion of their course at a euphoric awards ceremony. The graduates offered inspirational songs, poems and speeches. Ms Robinson moved her classmates to tears when she declared: "I'm not the woman I could have been or should be, but thank God I'm not the woman I used to be."

Another graduate, an energetic woman in a vivid orange dress, led a chant of Jesse Jackson's mantra of self-esteem: "I am Somebody". She vowed she would never again be controlled by the man who had once kidnapped their baby. Later, reality set in: two women on the course were serial trainees, it seemed, signing on for courses but never holding down a job. The woman in the orange dress had been absent for several weeks from her job as a chambermaid, saying her daughter had chicken-pox — and raising fears that she was again being abused by her boyfriend.

Marriott draws criticism from trade union leaders for resisting attempts to unionise its workers and for not paying higher wages. In fact, Marriott's median rate of $7.40 an hour is above the pay of nearly a third of US workers. In addition, Marriott offers stock options, classes on parenting and day care.

IAN BRODIE

ANTHONY HARRIS

A golden rule that might make sense

Dean Trench Street, one of the modest canonical roads leading to Smith Square in Westminster, is not the sort of place you would look for a bomb factory. But it is the home of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, and the latest NIESR quarterly review, contains one table with a potential explosive force. It is called the public sector balance sheet. It explains why our taxes are still too low, despite 22 increases. It blows apart a lot of hallowed icons: the Maastricht criteria, our own medium-term financial strategy, and Gordon Brown's golden rule. Not to mention any Conservative pretensions to good stewardship.

The public sector what, you may be asking? The fact is that we have not seen such a thing before, and the thought makes me kick myself. No financial journalist would give an ounce of credence to a company report which gave no figures for the capital position: accountants, after all, define profit as the difference between the opening and closing balance. But when it comes to UK Plc, different rules have been applied. A debacle in the public capital position has been brushed under the rug, but not one awkward question has been raised since Harold Macmillan protested against the selling of the family silver. The more fools the rest of us.

What the table shows is that in John Major's six years, first as Chancellor and then as Prime Minister, the net worth of the public sector — its assets less its debts — has been run down by four fifths, or about £200 billion at current prices. That is a loss of wealth of nearly £10,000 for every household in the country. Perhaps voters are better economists than the experts. What we have lost is not wealth that we can mortgage, but no less valuable — hospitals with enough beds, decent schools, good roads, adequate police equipment — you name it.

It hurts, and it saddles us with higher spending on private provision, on maintenance, on improvements, a bigger national debt, and about 2p on income tax for ever, simply to stop the debauchery going on. But the Treasury is not the only body that needs reminding about balance sheets. The figures show up the real cost of using the proceeds of privatisation to pay for current spending (favoured by the IMF). They also show that "solutions" such as the Private Finance Initiative solve nothing.

Borrowing is not itself a sin, whether you are a government or a compay. The choice between private and public finance, the institute argues, should not be based on its impact on the PSBR (a Thatcherite cash flow number), but on cost, just like the choice bwteen investing or buying in. Is leasing cheaper than borrowing? Common sense, surely; and once you have understood that, you will also understand that the Maastricht constraints on public borrowing are equally empty. Bond issuance is one aspect of economic management, not its acid test.

So what does make sense? An annual official public balance sheet would complete the budget accounts, and show up debauchery; but we still need a guide to sound policy. The institute proposes a definition of a neutral policy: one which stablises the publicly owned share of national wealth. More leans left, less leans right: the arguments are doctrinal, not economic. In a sense this is what Gordon Brown probably had at the back of his mind when he proposed his golden rule, no extra borrowing except for investment; but that is incomplete. It still emphasises borrowing, simply one method of financing, rather than real impacts, as the test of virtue. Bad accounting again.

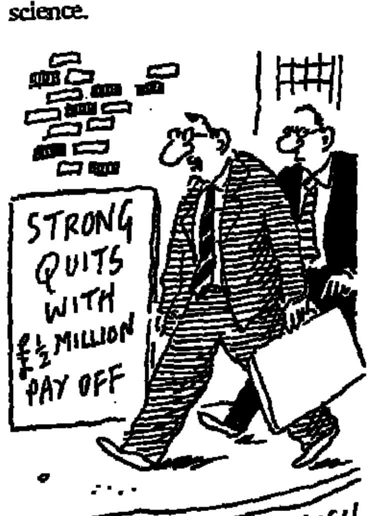
So should the next government simply tear up the existing rule book? Ideally, yes, but the shock effect would be too great. A more modest hope: that the Treasury and the next Chancellor will read the Review, and that the next Red Book contains at least a mention of the public sector balance sheet.

British companies are said to be too much dominated by accountants. Could they export some to our biggest financial concern?

Sole searching

LIAM STRONG was putting on a brave face yesterday; despite having to give his many critics the satisfaction of seeing him finally throw in the towel. After parting company with Sears he plans to go sailing for the summer.

He will then consider the "range of options" he says he has open to him. "I am probably not going to go into another shoe business," Strong said, with admirable prescience.


STRONG QUITS WITH £½ MILLION PAY OFF
PUGH

"I never thought I'd say it but I'd love to be in his shoes"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

● *A COMMUNIQUÉ arrives from Johannesburg solicitors Bell, Dewer & Hall bearing the firm's motto: "Lawyers adding value through expertise." Apparently in South Africa there is no Trades Descriptions Act.*

Hands' length

NOMURA BANK director Michael Cooke was faced with an embarrassing situation on Monday when he turned up for a meeting of the lending group to the Co-operative Retail Society. CRS may be at daggers drawn with the Co-operative Wholesale Society, but Cooke was at pains to distance himself from Guy Hands, the corporate financier at Nomura International, who was helping Andrew Regan put together the finance for the abortive bid for the CWS.

Neil Pringle, the CRS's urbane financial controller, accepted the apology with equanimity. "The bank said it had not talked to the corproate finance side. There are Japanese walls apparently."

Tiger chasing

JIM MELLON, the stalker of Hambros Bank, is no stranger to risk. The globe-trotting head of Regent Pacific, the Hong Kong-based fund manager, cut his teeth in the emerging Tiger markets of South-East Asia under the auspices of Richard Thornton's eponymous group. He was there when the 1987 crash wreaked havoc in the region. Now he is back with his own company and thriving in the new Tiger economies of Eastern Europe as well as holding a near 4 per cent stake in Hambros Bank. The Regent portfolio is not for the faint-hearted so nice to see such august bodies as the President and Fellows of Harvard College and our own Equitable Life backing him.

● *A READER calls to point out that the cultural departments of the US and Russian embassies can only be called on premium-rate phone lines. Who knows what great insights you can get at 45p per minute?*

Riding high

THE latest IRA campaign has halted planes, trains and automobiles but not determined executives. Rupert Lowe and Andrew Cowen, chairman and managing director of Southampton Leisure, got stuck in an impossible traffic jam on the M3 yesterday caused by the latest round of bomb threats. Fortunately, they were able to turn back to Mr Cowen's house and beat the traffic by both riding to their meeting at the Dell, home of Southampton Football Club, on Mr Cowen's pride and joy — a BMW 1,000cc motorbike.

● *A SPOT of wishful thinking from the fax machines at Tory Central Office? A press release winging its way from Conservative HQ was mysteriously datelined 1992. Nostalgic memories of the last election victory must be permeating the air.*

Reading rescue

ALAN LEWIS is clearly enjoying himself as receiver of AFC Bournemouth, the second division football club. The Arthur Andersen partner, a veteran of the Gooda Walker, Coal Investments and Maxwell insolvencies, has done everything but play in goal in his attempts to save The Cherries.

He offered to compete in a penalty shoot-out against Trevor Watkins, the lawyer from Hammond Suddards who runs the Bournemouth Trust Fund, and a representative of the supporters club, to raise money for the club. But a downpour washed out the competition last weekend.

Now Reading, where multimillionaire publisher John Madejski is about to build a £37 million "Madejski" stadium, is coming to the rescue. It is playing a charity game against Bournemouth a week today at the end of which the shoot-out will reconvene. Weather permitting.

John Madejski will see his team come to the rescue of a rival

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Irish boom economy expected to continue

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

THE Republic of Ireland's *booming economy* is set to continue to outstrip its European neighbours until 2005, *the country's leading economic* think-tank has said.

In a report published today *the Economic* and Social Research Institute (ESRI) predicts GNP growth of 5.5 per cent for the remainder of the 1990s, slowing to 5 per cent through to 2005.

The independent group says that such growth will fuel a sharp fall in unemployment from its current rate of around 11 per cent to just 7 per cent by 2005 and that Ireland will achieve the EU average standard of living within the next eight years. The authors conclude: "The long-standing cliché of Ireland as a small vulnerable economy on the periphery of Europe is already looking a little threadbare."

The *Medium Term Review* says the cornerstone of Ireland's economic success was laid in the late 1960s when the Government introduced free secondary level education — a full 20 years after most other *European countries.* However, unlike some, Ireland continued to make education a *priority.* Today, almost 50 per cent of those leaving the education system do so after tertiary training. More than 80 per cent stay in schools at least until Leaving Certificate (A levels) standard, giving a higher rate of participation in education than in Britain.

The authors say these developments have interacted with and influenced such fundamental areas as the skill levels of the workforce, female participation in the Labour market and emigration.

The latter area has shown the most dramatic improvement. Back in 1950 almost one third of the country's potential labour market entrants emigrated in search of employment. Today the exceptional performance of the economy has resulted in net immigration. This in turn is set to cut the dependence/workers ratio from one of the highest in Europe in the Eighties to one of the lowest by 2005.

The ESRI cites tight fiscal controls, moderate pay demands and national wage agreements as key instruments of growth. *It says that* more of the same is required in the next decade if growth is to *be sustained.*

"The biggest danger is that an excessive rise in expectation *could feed into wage inflation* or on supportable demands on the Exchequer," says the report. *However, it should be* possible, says the report, to eliminate new government borrowing *in the next three* years and to run a small surplus by 2005.

The predictions are based on the presumption that EMU will go ahead on January 1, *1999,* and that *the Republic* will be a founding member.

Fibernet's price dives

SHARES in Fibernet, the *AIM-listed data network*ing specialist, dived from 178½p to 145½p after reporting pre-tax profits of £132,000 in the *six months* to February 28, slightly *down on the £192,000 in* the previous first half. Earnings per share were *maintained at 0.4p but* again there is no dividend.

Greig Middleton, the *company's broker*, said: "The past six months have not been without their frus*trations. From a standing* start last summer, Fibernet has been grappling with the combined challenges of establishing a support infrastructure and managing network roll-out."

Patrick Coyle, left, chief executive, and Conor McCarthy, retiring chairman and chief executive, yesterday

Ryan races ahead after revamp

A MULTIMILLION-POUND refur*bishment programme* last year helped to boost profits 45 per cent at Ryan Hotels, one of the Republic of Ireland's leading chains (Eileen McCabe writes). The group, which has hotels throughout Ireland and three outlets on the Continent, yesterday reported pre-tax profits of Ir£4.04 million. Earnings grew 43 per cent to Ir5.25p a share. Over the past four years, Ryan has spent Ir£8 million updating many of its leading hotels in Ireland. Yesterday, it announced a 100-*bedroom* extension to the Gresham Hotel, the group's Dublin flagship. It also said that, as expected, Conor McCarthy would be stepping down as chief executive, *but would remain as non-*executive chairman. There is a final dividend of Ir1.25p, payable on August 7, giving a total of Ir1.87p (Ir1.5p).

Watmoughs shares tumble after second profit warning

BY MARTIN BARROW

SHARES in Watmoughs (Holdings) fell 24.3 per cent *after the printing group issued* its second profit warning in just six weeks. Patrick Walker, chairman, *told the company's* annual meeting that underlying profits in the first half *would fall short of last year's* interim profits.

He said the difficult trading *conditions in Britain in the* final quarter of last year had continued in the first three months of the current year, although there is now evidence that the market for high-*quality web offset is improving.*

UK gravure operations are suffering from the strength of the pound, which is affecting *exports and the non-contractu*al gravure business, which competes in a European market. *This is being compounded* by the price of paper being cheaper in continental Europe *than in Britain. Markets for* financial printing and packing remain very competitive, the *company said.*

Operations in Spain and Hungary are progressing in *line with expectations in local* currency terms, although these are suffering on translation *into sterling.*

The disclosure that first-half profits would fall below last year's comparable £9.6 mil*lion stunned the stock market,* and the shares fell 87½p to 272½p, wiping more than £58 *million from the company's* market value, to £188.7 million.

A year ago the shares traded *at 480p. In March they fell* 28½p to 407½ after the company reported a fall in pre-tax *profits to £22.2 million* (£23.7 million). Analysts believe current-year profits are unlikely *to exceed £26 million* and pressure is growing on Declan Salter, chief executive, to reassure *investors* that the company can recover.

Latins lead in $40bn market for music

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THE overall volume of global music sales grew by 4 per cent *last year, totalling four billion* units worth $39.8 billion, the International Federation of *the Phonographic Industry* (IFPI) said yesterday. The fastest growing region of the *world was Latin America.*

The industry group said compact disc sales grew by 9 *per cent,* while both cassette and vinyl LP sales fell by 1 per cent and 32 per cent respective*ly. But the singles market* experienced continued growth, with an 8 per cent *increase in sales.*

Latin America was the fastest growing region, with total sales up by *almost* 30 per cent. Brazil ended the year as the sixth largest music market in *the world, showing an in*crease of sales of 33 per cent. Growth in Columbia exceeded 30 per cent despite prolonged economic problems, the IFPI said at a seminar held during London's Music Week.

"In 1996, around 70 per cent of the world's music growth was generated in less developed markets, in particular from Latin America and *Asia. This* compared with only 20 per cent in 1993, when global growth was at a *similar level to 1996,"* the industry body said.

In Asia, growth of 9 per cent *was at its highest for* some years. Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand all had sales growth *of more than 20 per cent.* Europe retained its position as the largest region for music *sales, with 34 per cent of world* total, the IFPI said.

In Britain, sales grew by 7 *per cent. Among medium-sized* markets, Denmark and Portugal both *showed* growth in *sales of more than 15 per cent.* In eastern Europe, sales grew by 14 per cent overall, with CD sales *increasing* by *almost* 30 per cent and cassette sales up by more than 10 per cent.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Burford acquires retail parks for £65m

BURFORD HOLDINGS has agreed to acquire four retail warehouse parks from Morrison Construction *Group* for £65.5 million. Burford said the parks in Edinburgh, Stoke-on-Trent, Hull and Walsall comprise approximately 450,000 sq ft of lettable retail warehouse accommodation. Only Meadowbank in Edinburgh, comprising 135,000 sq ft, has been developed so far, while planning consent has been granted for development of the three other sites. Construction is expected to proceed shortly.

The company said *it will be making stage payments* as pre-determined lettings are achieved. Overall, the price reflects an average yield of 7.8 per cent, based on an average rent of £11.30 per sq ft. *John Anderson, property* director at Burford Holdings, said: "This deal provides us with an excellent yield off a low average base rent and will provide good returns for Burford shareholders *in the* short to medium term."

Tate & Lyle investment

TATE & LYLE, the UK sugar company, has invested £4.1 million from its existing cash resources for a 50 per cent stake in a new sugar plant in India. Tate & Lyle's partner in this venture is Simbhaoli Sugar Mills. The plant at Chilwaria, about 300 miles east of Delhi, began production in February. The factory has been designed for easy and low-cost expansion in the medium term to 120,000 tonnes of sugar a *year* and an eventual capacity of more than 300,000 tonnes a year.

Zeneca collaboration

ZENECA GROUP, the *pharmaceuticals* company, announced a research collaboration agreement with Oxford University aimed at identifying genes responsible for ischaemic heart disease, *caused by an inadequate* supply of blood. The company said it will provide financial *support* to the university in return for clear *options on the exploitation of drug development* following the discovery of genetic targets during the collaboration.

Hornby back on track

SHARES *of Hornby rose 8p to 244½p yesterday after the toys* and models company said it expected pre-tax profits for the year to March 31 to be no less than £2.5 million, ahead of City *expectations, with earnings of 20p a share. The company* incurred a pre-tax loss of £5.16 million in the previous 12 months. Hornby said trading over Christmas met expecta*tions after a slow start. Sales in the first three months of 1997* matched those in the same period last year.

Polypipe to buy Celmac

POLYPIPE, the building products company, has agreed to buy a manufacturer of plastic toilet seats, for a maximum consideration of £10.9 million. Celmac, based near *Manchester, recorded pre-tax profits of £1.6 million in 1996.* Its net assets were £2.2 million at the year end. An initial £10.5 million will be paid in shares, with £400,000 payable in cash *six months* after completion. Polypipe is raising a further £4.9 million through a share issue to repay recent borrowings.

NIE in joint venture

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTRICITY and *United Utilities* have set up a joint venture to take over NIE's training, data management and meter reading. Vertex Ireland, an operation *between United Utilities' facilities division and NIE's equivalent* business, will seek further work in payroll administration, pensions organisation and accounting. Four hundred NIE staff *will transfer to Vertex, which will work from Belfast and Dublin* and aim for a £100 million turnover within five years.

Portman 'stays a society'

PORTMAN BUILDING SOCIETY is committed to remaining in its present form and not converting to a bank, members were told yesterday. Addressing the annual meeting, Douglas Baker, chairman, said the society, which is based in Bournemouth, had reviewed its strategy for the future. "Our position is clear," he said. "We intend to remain a *building society* because we *believe* that this best serves the interests of both existing and future members."

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

Get a free child ticket for Chessington

TUSSAUDS
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World of Adventures

The Times, in association with Chessington World of Adventures, offers you the chance to get a free child ticket to London's theme park. As well as stomach churning rides such as The Vampire or Rameses Revenge, younger adventurers can whizz around the track behind the wheel of the Toytown Truckers, or new this season, get lost in Action Man's Critical Mission, a challenging adventure *maze. Plus there are crazy entertainers,* the Big City Circus show and animal presentations.

HOW TO APPLY

Keep token one, right, and attach it to the free child ticket voucher which will be published in *The Times* tomorrow. Simply present the voucher and two tokens to the Chessington World of Adventures admission booth any day from now until May 31, 1997. When accompanied by an adult paying the full price, £18, you can get *a free child ticket, normally* £14. (A child is aged 4-14 inclusive.) *Open* 10am-5pm.

THE TIMES
World of Adventures
TOKEN 1

CHANGING TIMES

Early boost for Kuoni Reisen

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

KUONI REISEN, the Swiss travel group and tour operator, said first-quarter results for 1997 were above expectations, leading it to expect double-digit growth in revenues for the entire year.

It said that if exchange rates, on a yearly average, remain about the same, based on *results for the first quarter,* the company expected an increase in earnings before interest *and tax of 20 per cent or* more. "Depending on developments on securities exchanges, *profit should* also *improve in* line with this," it said.

Kuoni also cautioned that *alongside uncertainty factors* tied to currencies and securities markets, as well as short-*term bookings, it* has 50 percent of its fixed costs in the *first half, but realises only* 10 to 20 *per* cent of its operating earnings in that period.

The majority of operating results are seen in the *summer* and autumn vacation period, which falls in the second half.

Cashless society faces another test

BY SARA MCCONNELL

THE Republic of Ireland will get its first taste of the cashless society next year, when National Bank of Ireland and Ulster Bank launch a series of pilots to test the Mondex smartcard. Shoppers, users of public transport *and others* will be able to use the cards directly as an "electronic wal*let" for small transactions,* instead of using cash. The card can be loaded with cash *and debited for goods* or services at point of sale.

Keegan: Swindon project

The two Irish banks will form a joint venture company to exploit the Mondex franchises and develop the necessary infrastructure. Similar franchises exist in the US, Canada, New Zealand and Hong Kong, under the umbrella of Mondex International, 51 per cent owned by Mastercard International.

The first pilot in Swindon, Wiltshire, involving 13,000 users, is set to finish in July after two years. Mondex, headed by Mike Keegan, denied that the project had been slow to catch on and said the main aim of the pilot had been to test the equipment. Mondex cards are in use at Exeter and York Universities.

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France	(FFr)	1985	61%	1091	571	331	502
Luxembourg (post)	(LFr)	9164	66%	5040	2636	1527	2811
Netherlands	(DFl)	778	56%	428	224	130	188
Spain	(PTS)	75299	28%	41414	21848	12560	17143
Switzerland	(SFr)	809	49%	445	232	135	177
Rest of Europe	(£)	474	n/a	237	118.5	70.04	138

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CHANGING TIMES

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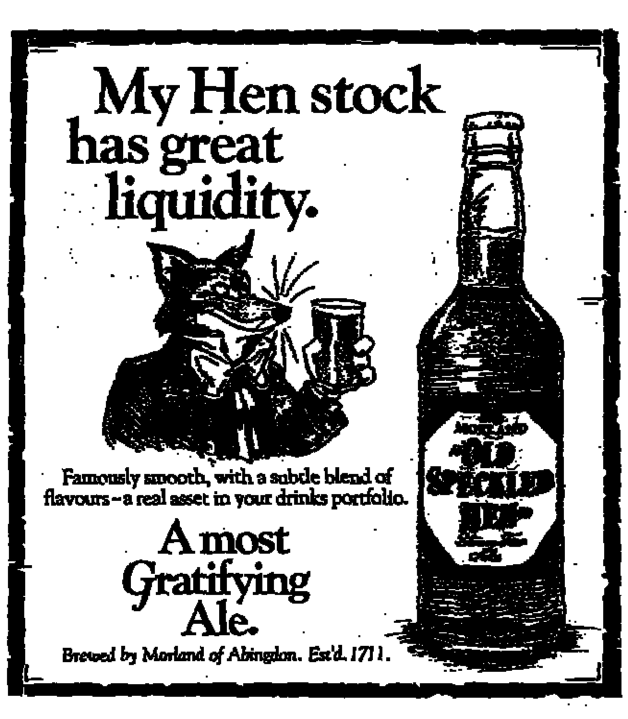
هكذا من الاعلى

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett Units				
General Acc	739.10	786.30	+ 2.80	2.27
General Inc	612.30	651.40	+ 2.30	2.27
UK Growth Acc	512.20	544.90	+ 1.50	2.41
UK Growth Inc	327.40	348.40	+ 1.30	2.41
Higher Inc Acc	915.60	974.10	+ 5.80	3.89
Higher Inc Inc	480.30	511.00	+ 3.00	3.89
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	214.90	226.80	+ 0.30	5.58
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	91.75	96.81	+ 0.14	5.58
Nth America	342.40	364.30	+ 1.30	
Europe	391.70	416.80	+ 1.80	0.30
Brit Excell	100.90	107.40	+ 0.30	2.51
Brit Fndmtls Acc	127.90	136.10	+ 0.70	4.63
Brit Fndmtls Inc	84.32	89.71	+ 0.40	4.63
Global Opps	103.00	109.60	+ 0.30	
Balanced Acc	66.90	71.18	+ 0.23	2.29
Balanced Inc	61.88	65.84	+ 0.20	2.29
Japan Acc	38.34	40.79	+ 0.06	...
Pac Basin Acc	376.00	400.10	- 1.10	0.00
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.10	140.28†	+ 0.40	6.64
High Inc Equity	196.90	210.60†	+ 1.00	4.61
Worldwide Bond	262.10	277.90	+ 0.30	4.32
American Growth	414.60	443.20	+ 3.20	0.38
Asian Pacific	315.60	337.90	- 2.20	0.41
Assets & Earnings	322.30	344.80	+ 1.60	2.74
Euro Capital Acc	201.90	215.90	+ 0.20	0.94
Extra Inc	43.12	45.87†	+ 0.08	7.98
General	291.00	309.60	+ 1.20	2.97
Global Opps	73.70	78.40	- 0.09	0.51
Japan	40.09	45.28	- 0.14	
Managed Inc	49.32	52.47†	+ 0.14	4.29
Mastertrust	175.00	187.20	...	1.28
US Emerging Cos	164.00	175.40	- 0.70	
Ethical	86.50	92.02	+ 0.01	1.72
International	137.10	145.80	- 0.10	0.69
Dividend & Growth	73.51	78.20	+ 0.30	4.30
Global Gwth & Sec	75.52	80.57	+ 0.13	2.51
Latin America	82.14	87.38	- 0.31	0.45
Capital Reserve	148.60	148.70	+ 0.20	4.70
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0141 275 8500				
N&P UK Growth	98.81	105.10	+ 0.36	2.28
Equity Income	139.00	147.80	+ 0.70	4.07
Extra Income	270.00	287.29	+ 1.10	6.30
Smaller Cos	110.40	117.40†	- 1.50	1.49
International	117.20	124.60†	+ 0.50	1.41
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2507.00	2536.00	..	..
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	63.08	65.42†	+ 0.42	
Emerging Mkts	77.39	80.60	+ 0.02	0.04
European	160.60	167.00	- 1.40	
Extra Income #	51.85	54.57†	+ 0.11	5.96
Far East Emg Eco	125.60	131.70	- 0.80	0.47
Fixed Interest #	26.77	27.84	+ 0.01	8.73
Fund Inv Tst #	163.30	171.40†	+ 0.30	9.69
Japan	158.70	165.00	+ 0.20	
Latin American	70.27	73.13	- 0.05	0.66
Pacific	79.42	83.37†	- 0.30	0.31
Property Share	83.06	87.22	+ 0.76	2.01
UK Emerging Cos	72.51	76.37	- 0.04	1.23
UK Growth	59.93	62.42†	+ 0.23	1.88
Aber World Port #	86.31	88.24	+ 0.18	2.82
Ethical	82.23	85.52	+ 0.01	2.06
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.16	50.21†	+ 0.05	7.38
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5868				
Resdl Property #	99.93	106.30	..	5.34
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	98.30	104.30†	+ 0.26	1.94
Income Builder Inc	87.02	93.57	+ 0.31	3.78
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	312.90	334.40†	+ 3.40	2.78
Capital	561.50	600.20†	+ 4.90	1.05
Balanced	918.00	981.20	+ 10.70	2.48
Accumulator	1767.00	1888.00†	+ 19.00	1.65
Income Trusts				
American Income	68.75	73.370	+ 0.56	2.71
High Income	503.70	537.80†	+ 5.90	3.97
Equity Income	284.90	304.30	+ 3.40	3.65
High Yield	302.60	323.20†	+ 3.40	3.72
Govt Securities	34.27	36.170†	+ 0.24	6.04
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	228.40	243.90†	+ 2.50	0.05
European Growth	60.32	64.480	+ 0.35	0.06
International	192.60	205.70†	+ 0.60	0.11
Japan	158.00	168.90	- 0.90	.
Pacific	377.80	403.80	- 3.70	.
Secs of America	805.90	845.10	+ 8.40	0.12
Wwide Asset Val	56.02	59.880	+ 0.13	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	709.00	757.90	+ 8.80	1.80
Conv & Gilt	53.43	57.110	+ 0.22	3.71
Smaller Cos	214.00	228.70	- 0.10	1.00
2nd Smaller Cos	202.80	216.70†	- 0.20	0.72
Recovery	182.40	194.90†	+ 1.70	1.45
Met Min & Cmdy	150.30	160.60†	- 1.10	0.19
Oseas Earnings	469.90	502.30†	+ 4.90	0.97
Technology	214.90	229.70†	+ 1.80	.
UK Special Sits	635.10	678.80	+ 6.70	1.56
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Concils Dst Pens	124.60	129.40	..	.
Foundn Pens Pens	73.03	75.87	...	.
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	94.00	100.00	+ 1.32	0.75
International	69.59	74.03	.	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	352.50	377.50	+ 8.40	..
Bond	117.40	123.50†	+ 0.40	6.63
Brit Smlr Cos	118.40	126.00	- 0.40	1.79
Conv & Gen #	69.87	74.33	- 1.35	5.20
Europe	309.10	328.00	+ 2.70	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	125.30	133.40	+ 0.80	0.31
Income Gwth	393.10	418.20†	+ 0.80	4.50
Japan	274.70	291.90	- 0.50	
Latin American	103.38	109.90	- 0.20	0.58
Pacific	113.40	120.60	- 1.20	0.53
UK Smlr Cos	60.75	64.68	- 0.04	1.23
Japan Fd	510.90	535.50	- 0.80	..
Mngd Fd	214.40	227.70†	+ 1.10	2.85
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	402.60	425.90	.	0.83
Capital Gwth	142.00	150.20		2.76
Wwide Opps	235.50	249.10	.	0.87
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	465.00	494.70†	+ 2.70	2.08
European Bd Inc	98.46	101.90	- 0.10	5.72
Exempt	91.13	98.95†	+ 0.52	2.54
500	523.60	563.00	+ 0.30	2.04
General	355.90	378.60†	+ 2.10	2.15
Property	259.90	278.80	..	5.53
Trustee	250.70	266.70	+ 1.30	2.11
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.45	100.40†		5.56
Distribution @#	118.80	119.40	+ 0.40	5.84
Extra Income #	150.10	160.10†	+ 1.00	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	59.17	61.00	+ 0.15	7.72
Income #	643.60	686.50	+ 3.70	4.42
Income Builder #	73.84	78.64	+ 0.35	5.05
Intl Income	75.40	80.28	+ 0.50	1.82
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	156.50	166.50	+ 1.00	1.93
FTSE 100	113.20	120.10	+ 0.70	2.37
Leisure	182.90	195.10	- 0.20	1.59
Recovery	544.70	581.00	+ 3.40	2.18
Smlr Cos Inc	62.07	66.21	- 0.15	2.07
Special Sits	448.20	476.80	+ 2.50	1.87
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	186.60	199.80	+ 1.80	0.27
F East Gwth Acc	298.80	318.90	- 6.40	0.27
Far East Gwth	177.80	189.30	- 3.80	0.27
Euro Gwth Inc	201.80	213.50	+ 0.50	0.65
-do- Accum	219.50	232.30	+ 0.70	0.65
Japan	111.30	118.50†	- 0.20	.
-do- Accum	113.20	119.90	- 0.10	.
Japan Spec Sits	52.89	56.03	- 0.06	.
Worldwide	200.80	213.20	+ 0.80	0.68
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	143.00	151.10	+ 2.10	..
Amer Smlr Cos	126.30	135.30	+ 0.40	..
Convertibles	61.89	66.00†	+ 0.16	4.40
Eastern	273.80	294.30	- 2.70	0.30
Equity Income #	108.40	115.80†	+ 0.60	4.10
European Growth	393.00	417.80	+ 1.00	0.80
Europe	397.50	424.10	- 0.10	0.80
German Growth	92.80	98.27	- 0.01	0.50
Global Bond	70.40	74.06	+ 0.09	6.20
Global Growth	146.70	155.80	+ 1.00	0.40
Japan Growth	161.20	171.38	+ 0.30	.
Japan Sunrise	108.80	115.50	+ 0.30	..
Korea Trust	50.20	54.23	- 0.17	.
Portfolio	155.60	165.90	+ 0.30	2.00
-do- Accum	296.60	316.40	+ 0.70	2.00
UK Growth	118.80	127.40	+ 0.40	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	106.10	115.18†	...	1.80
Select Managers	91.27	98.00†	+ 0.02	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	93.99	99.99	- 1.11	
Special Oppor Inc	66.78	71.02	- 2.05	.
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	161.46	170.88†	+ 2.99	1.45
-do- Accum	189.08	200.09	+ 3.50	1.45
Smaller Cos	175.50	185.71	.	0.40
Higher Yield #	61.57	65.15†	+ 0.37	3.99
American Gth Inc	102.75	108.73	- 0.07	...
European Growth	176.24	186.50†	- 0.46	..
-do- Accum	180.01	190.49	- 0.47	.
Mngd Ptflo Inc	56.15	59.40†	- 0.03	1.27
-do- Accum	58.57	61.85	- 0.03	1.27
Intl Spec Opps	175.39	185.60	- 0.11	..
Pacific Gth	157.04	166.18	- 1.68	...
UK General #	107.65	113.92	+ 0.62	2.90
-do- Accum #	116.87	123.67	+ 0.69	2.90
Japan	46.53	49.24	- 0.45	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	101.19	104.86	+ 0.26	8.17
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7215				
Short Dated Gilt	94.22	95.05†	+ 0.04	6.61
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Environ	196.80	206.10	+ 0.30	1.88
UK Growth	231.90	243.70	+ 1.30	2.10
UK Income	159.60	168.00†	+ 1.10	4.16
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD 01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	247.20	262.00	+ 0.70	1.51
-do- Income Dist	135.50	143.50†	+ 0.70	3.48
-do- Accum	451.60	478.60†	+ 2.50	3.49
Gilt & Fxd Int	40.86	42.93	+ 0.04	6.34
Growth Units	280.10	298.40	+ 1.10	1.55
Bond	176.80	185.70	+ 0.40	6.60
Intl Growth	232.80	247.60†		0.18
North American	268.80	285.40	+ 2.00	0.09
Far East	294.80	315.30	- 3.40	0.61
UK Smaller Cos	248.60	265.90	+ 0.10	1.08
European	100.38	106.50	+ 0.40	0.47
Japanese Growth	36.67	38.86†	+ 0.01	.
High Income	238.80	254.10†	+ 1.30	3.98
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	222.00	235.30†	+ 1.10	
European Inc	103.50	109.80	+ 0.10	0.37
Smaller Cos (4-1)	115.58	122.90†	- 0.40	1.34
Growth	802.30	840.80	+ 0.70	1.96
Income & Growth #	506.30	539.70	+ 2.70	3.52
-do- Accum #	776.20	825.80	+ 4.00	3.52
Japan & Gen	53.93	57.23†	.	.
Hallmark Gwth	£12.96	£13.50†	+ 3.00	1.73
-do- Accum	£16.13	£16.81	+ 4.00	1.73
Special Sits	138.80	147.70	+ 0.10	1.95
High Yield	£16.45	£18.96	+ 9.00	3.96
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	107.34	114.54	+ 0.13	2.14
American Portfolio	131.20	139.20	+ 1.97	1.06
European Portfolio	147.04	156.33†	+ 0.28	0.58
High Income	52.67	52.80	+ 0.05	7.34
Japanese Portfolio	53.92	57.19†	- 0.06	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	156.32	167.92	- 0.48	0.79
UK Equity	104.26	111.32†	+ 0.17	3.20
UK Equity & Bd	61.71	65.40	+ 0.17	6.17
UK Smlr Cos	54.58	58.38	- 0.04	1.61
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	818.86	832.26	...	4.13
Inv Fd Acc	818.86	832.26	+ 11.71	
Fxd Int Sec Inc	156.66	157.28		9.09
Fxd Int Sec Acc	156.68	157.28	+ 0.93	.
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	814.88	827.20	+ 13.16	4.18
Investment Acc	£38.42	£39.08	+ 0.25	...
Fixed Int Inc	126.75	127.25	- 0.02	9.11
Fixed Int Acc	241.11	242.07	- 0.04	.
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	84.76	88.36	...	5.61
Beck Bio-Tech	36.87	40.18		
Acorn Ethical Tst	187.94	197.35	.	0.43
City Fin Assets	81.56	85.63†		1.97
City Fin Intl	88.65	93.09†		0.06
Frans Hse Cap	321.37	341.88	.	2.33
Buckley Wide Gwth	140.25	148.67†		
J Sal Inc/Gth Inc	60.05	63.66	...	3.29
Shaw Utilities	67.27	68.97	+ 0.57	6.43
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	60.11	63.70	- 0.19	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0345 772 233				
American Gwth	78.90	83.94	+ 0.46	0.11
Dragon Growth	68.92	73.66	- 0.87	0.44
Equity High Inc	100.20	106.93	+ 0.69	3.87
-do- Accum	146.89	155.43	+ 1.00	3.87
Extra Income Inc	26.67	28.08†	+ 0.05	7.21
Extra Income Acc	30.20	31.80	+ 0.06	7.21
European Gwth	68.13	72.09	+ 0.33	0.34
Evergreen	30.56	32.68	+ 0.08	0.01
General Equity	117.11	123.60	+ 0.34	2.81
Japan Growth	37.79	40.19	+ 0.05	.
Pedigree Gwth	69.74	73.79	+ 0.15	2.05
Pacif Sm Cos Inc	41.59	44.01	- 0.10	1.17
-do- Accum	44.34	46.92	- 0.10	1.17
Retirement Inc #	30.45	32.39	+ 0.16	5.50
Special Sits	50.74	54.56	+ 0.02	2.74
UK & Overseas	62.68	66.34	- 0.06	0.69
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD 01634 896 000				
Balanced	75.04	78.16	+ 0.27	3.95
Capital	90.06	93.81	+ 0.25	2.35
High Income	52.92	55.12	+ 0.13	6.71
Top 50	62.50	65.10	+ 0.20	2.47
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	206.39	215.01†	+ 0.91	4.27
Long Gilt	43.78	45.58†	+ 0.09	6.23
Monthly Inc Plus	51.39	53.54†	- 0.06	8.37
Preference Share	48.79	50.83†	+ 0.24	7.67
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	150.02	156.29†	+ 0.76	5.46
Managed Fund	79.13	82.44†	+ 0.18	2.69
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	55.13	57.43†	- 0.21	1.65
-do- Accum	65.93	68.68†	- 0.25	1.65
UK & General	106.30	110.74†	+ 0.43	2.72
-do- Accum	140.92	146.81†	+ 0.57	2.72
UK Growth	214.09	223.03†	+ 0.75	1.26
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	227.97	237.49†	+ 1.02	0.61
Far Eastern Gth	124.71	129.92†	- 0.82	0.03
Global Bond	72.53	75.56†	+ 0.02	6.56
Japan Growth	93.76	97.68†		.
North Amer Gth	253.17	263.75†	+ 2.86	.
Oriental Growth	61.58	65.00†	- 0.83	0.27
Worldwide Growth	74.05	77.14†	+ 0.26	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.76	91.76†	+ 0.01	5.53
Homeowner Fund	94.86	100.93	+ 0.55	2.14
Quilter Fund	164.84	175.38	+ 0.48	2.05
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	37.88	40.28	.	3.92
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	194.20	206.60†	+ 0.30	1.79
Income	76.89	81.80	+ 0.64	4.31
European	80.45	85.60	+ 0.98	0.29
Recovery	189.20	201.30†	+ 2.20	2.55
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1049.30	1065.30		3.25
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	116.68	124.00†	...	1.10
Income #	300.00	316.10†	+ 0.80	4.31
-do- Accum #	815.90	867.90	+ 1.90	4.31
Smaller Cos	239.70	254.90	- 0.90	0.94
-do- Accum	298.50	317.50	- 1.20	0.94
Gilt Portfolio	107.00	113.80	+ 0.10	1.25
High Inc Port #	88.48	94.13	+ 0.28	4.44
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1636.10	1868.80	..	.
UK Small Cos	2324.90	2420.80	..	2.73
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	244.90	252.50	..	3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	188.70	200.70	+ 0.60	1.61
UK High Inc Inc	198.50	209.00	+ 1.10	3.41
-do- Accum	269.40	286.50	+ 1.50	3.41
UK Pref & F I Inc	59.97	63.68	+ 0.21	5.81
Environmntl Opps	111.50	118.60†	+ 0.90	0.84
UK Smlr Cos #	76.71	81.60	- 0.15	0.63
Extra Income Inc	50.25	53.45	+ 0.16	6.48
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 080 526				
Convertibles #	23.43	24.89†	+ 0.07	5.62
Enterprise	115.30	122.70	+ 0.10	2.05
Equity Income #	151.70	161.20†	+ 1.20	3.72
European	67.67	71.57	+ 0.24	
Financial	83.05	88.09	+ 0.71	1.49
Growth & Inc #	309.00	328.30	+ 2.50	2.67
High Dist #	192.70	204.70	+ 1.80	4.15
International	430.70	457.60	+ 0.30	0.22
Intl Cap Inc	110.60	118.10†	+ 0.60	2.29
Latin American	38.57	38.86	- 0.10	
Pacific	80.82	85.66	- 0.77	
Pref High Inc	22.87	24.19†	+ 0.09	7.41
Tokyo	175.70	186.00	- 0.70	.
UK Smaller Cos	262.40	278.80	+ 0.60	1.09
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
Jap Smllr Co	294.60	312.60†	+ 0.60	
Nth Amer	444.20	470.90	.	0.62
UK Inc & Gwth	271.80	289.90†	+ 1.80	2.56
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
BM Director Digs	130.47	139.54†	.	1.02
Growth Acc	286.94	305.64	.	0.63
Income	618.81	659.03	.	6.03
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7281				
Endurance Fd	233.70	248.60†	.	0.69
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	98.23	103.40	+ 0.84	1.58
Ethical Tst	46.84	49.30	+ 0.14	1.01
Far Eastern	292.29	307.67	- 2.38	1.50
High Income	156.96	164.17	+ 1.67	4.46
UK Index Trckng	57.57	60.60	+ 0.67	2.97
Intl Growth	146.25	153.96	- 0.25	0.77
North American	155.35	163.53	+ 2.38	1.83
Pelican	157.06	165.32†	+ 1.54	2.92
Smaller Cos	76.67	80.71	- 0.41	2.60
Special Sits	98.38	103.56	+ 0.18	2.62
Tst of Inv Tsts	226.35	238.26	+ 0.47	1.42
For Evermore see Laurence Keen				
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	104.83	112.42†	+ 0.04	
Fd of Inv Tsts	55.29	58.96	+ 0.04	0.49
High Income #	40.50	43.40†		11.52
Wizard	46.97	51.05†	+ 0.08	.
Zero Preference	45.80	48.69	+ 0.12	.
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	104.80	111.20†	+ 0.40	2.38
United Charities	344.10	366.00†	+ 0.90	1.57
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.60
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.03	26.98†	+ 0.02	5.42
Strategic Inc	27.50	28.84†	+ 0.08	5.89
Income Funds				
High Income	27.96	29.35	+ 0.09	5.25
Income Plus	144.00	153.20	+ 0.60	3.91
European Income	54.06	57.46	+ 0.11	2.37
UK Div Gwth	34.63	36.83	+ 0.11	2.27
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	54.19	57.81	- 1.20	..
American	331.70	353.60	+ 1.50	
Amer Spec Sits	181.80	194.29	+ 0.10	.
Japan Smaller Cos	23.07	24.55	+ 0.04	
European	252.80	268.80	+ 0.70	0.56
European Opps	90.01	95.68†	+ 0.13	0.02
Global Priv	34.87	37.08†	- 0.08	0.30
UK Growth	133.00	142.40	+ 0.50	1.37
Growth & Inc	197.90	210.50	+ 0.80	2.20
Intl PEP	51.81	55.09	+ 0.21	0.99
Japan Spec Sits	65.57	69.56	+ 0.12	.
Japan	155.10	164.40	+ 0.20	
Managed Intl	370.10	393.20	+ 2.00	0.68
Moneybuilder	67.98	72.29	+ 0.09	.
Recovery	66.97	71.21†	- 0.16	1.92
South E Asia	183.20	195.40	- 0.30	0.99
Special Sits	794.10	844.40	+ 0.70	0.52
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	118.69	118.69	+ 0.02	5.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	155.40	157.70†		1.86
Finsbury Pvt Inc #	101.90	102.80	+ 0.40	6.04
Cap Ptflo	170.40	171.80	+ 0.70	0.45
General Opps	151.00	152.40†	.	3.7
Growth Inc	40.62	41.03	+ 0.24	1.89
Private Portfolio	501.10	508.40		1.18
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	155.60	165.30	- 0.42	0.08
High Income	22.99	24.41†	+ 0.09	9.22
Japan Smlr Cos	14.60	15.64	+ 0.07	.
US Smaller Cos	427.00	454.40	- 0.70	.
For Foster & Braithwaite see Chiefs				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	77.22	82.26†	+ 0.29	..
-do- Accum	77.22	82.26†	+ 0.29	
Amer Smllr Cos	574.40	614.30	- 1.70	
-do- Accum	586.80	627.60	- 1.70	..
Capital Tst	419.50	446.30†	- 0.90	1.26
-do- Accum	619.50	659.00†	- 1.50	1.26
Contl Smllr Cos	61.57	65.94	- 0.16	0.97
-do- Accum	65.50	70.15	- 0.16	0.97
Convertible	145.30	154.60	+ 0.30	5.17
-do- Accum	321.80	342.60	+ 0.60	5.17
Emerging Markets	70.70	75.53	- 0.64	0.54
-do- Accum	71.27	76.14	- 0.64	0.54
European	160.20	169.70	+ 0.60	0.50
-do- Accum	169.70	179.80	+ 0.60	0.50
Extra Income	420.00	446.80	+ 1.30	4.02
-do- Accum	677.20	720.40	+ 2.10	4.02
Financial	190.70	202.90†	+ 0.80	0.46
-do- Accum	204.30	217.30†	+ 0.90	0.46
Gilt Trust	62.67	64.63†	+ 0.02	6.65
-do- Accum	100.50	103.60†	...	6.65
Health Fund Inc	231.90	247.80	- 0.60	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	231.50	247.80	- 0.80	.
Income & Growth	246.20	261.90	+ 0.90	4.08
-do- Accum	397.80	423.20	+ 1.57	4.08
Intl Growth	413.10	441.20†	+ 0.70	.
-do- Accum	458.70	489.90†	+ 0.80	.
Japan & Gen	135.70	144.10	+ 0.20	..
-do- Accum	137.10	145.60	+ 0.20	.
Monthly Inc #	213.90	227.50†	+ 1.18	4.26
-do- Accum #	218.70	232.10†	+ 0.90	4.26
Managed Port Inc	123.70	130.20†	..	1.38
-do- Accum	136.00	143.20†		1.38
Quarterly Income #	59.81	63.74	+ 0.17	5.07
-do- Accum #	68.70	74.53	+ 0.21	5.07
Recovery	326.30	349.00	- 1.00	.
-do- Accum	385.10	411.90	- 1.30	..
UK Growth	72.02	76.62	- 0.17	2.00
-do- Accum	78.10	83.09	- 0.19	2.00
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	65.99	70.21	+ 0.61	0.14
FP Am Smllr Cos	182.90	195.00	- 0.20	
FP Asian Growth	278.80	297.30	- 5.20	
FP Australian	449.00	478.50	+ 2.80	..
FP Equity Dist	498.70	531.90	+ 1.70	2.27
-do- Accum	£11.13	£11.87	+ 4.00	2.27
FP Euro Gth	318.50	339.70	+ 0.80	..
-do- Accum	349.50	372.70	+ 0.90	.
FP Intl Bond	54.84	58.03	- 0.01	4.16
FP Intl Gth Dist	39.02	41.62	+ 0.08	0.08
-do- Accum	57.32	61.14	+ 0.12	0.08
FP Pac Basin Acc	208.10	221.90	- 2.30	...
FP Income #	63.88	68.13	+ 0.44	4.81
-do- Accum #	227.10	242.20	+ 1.60	4.81
FP Jap Smllr Cos	210.50	224.50	..	
FP Monthly Dist #	78.47	84.78†	+ 0.38	5.29
FP Stlg Deposit	100.30	100.30†		5.01
FP Tokyo	65.59	69.96	- 0.04	
FP UK Focus	46.05	49.12†	+ 0.21	1.56
FP UK Growth	218.00	232.50	+ 0.80	2.04
-do- Accum	443.50	473.00	+ 1.60	2.04
Stewardship Dist	470.00	501.20	- 0.20	1.28
-do- Accum	594.00	633.50	- 0.30	1.28
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	81.47	86.90	- 0.32	4.87
-do- Accum #	114.80	121.50	- 0.50	4.87
N Am Stshp Dist	129.60	138.20	+ 0.30	0.27
-do- Accum	138.50	148.70	+ 0.30	0.27
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	115.00	115.50	+ 0.20	3.20
Inst Ethical Ac #	115.00	115.60	+ 0.20	3.20
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	131.70	140.10	- 0.70	0.87
Open Cap Gth Acc	134.80	143.30	- 0.60	.
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	121.40	129.10	- 0.60	3.10
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	130.10	139.30	- 0.60	3.10
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	126.40	134.40	- 0.20	3.07
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	136.80	145.60	- 0.30	3.07
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 108/7				
GAMDA	329.00	348.00	+ 2.10	1.72
Cash	49.74	50.49	+ 0.01	4.44
Growth Portfolio	94.15	100.70	+ 0.20	..
Income Portfolio	76.75	81.43	+ 0.47	2.80
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	237.50	254.00	- 1.50	0.35
Dividend	106.40	113.80	+ 1.50	3.63
Inc Gth & Inc	263.20	281.50	+ 2.80	2.29
UK & Gen	54.69	58.49	+ 0.56	1.42
Fund of Funds	77.65	83.05†	- 0.30	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	183.30	196.10	- 1.20	0.17
European Gth	783.80	834.50	- 8.50	0.57
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	55.37	58.75†	- 0.02	4.06
-do- Accum	63.59	67.46	- 0.03	4.06
Far East & Gen	246.00	263.10	- 3.80	
High Yield #	50.08	53.51	+ 0.12	7.50
-do- Accum #	57.65	60.90	+ 0.14	7.50
Income Inc	211.00	225.70	+ 0.60	3.82
-do- Accum	245.10	262.20	+ 0.80	3.82
Intl Growth	391.30	416.20	+ 0.10	0.30
Intl Income	99.17	105.00	+ 0.40	2.60
Japan Growth	414.80	440.00		
Orient Acc	199.40	213.30	- 3.10	0.14
UK General Inc	198.50	212.30	+ 0.70	1.65
UK General Acc	356.50	381.10	+ 1.20	1.65
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	65.44	69.89	- 0.17	1.66
UK Spec Sits	112.80	120.40	+ 0.10	1.36
US Growth	193.00	204.20	+ 1.40	.
Wwide Spec Sits	163.10	173.50	- 0.20	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	63.62	67.95	+ 0.07	2.08
Cash Trust	149.85	149.85	+ 0.01	5.46
Practical Inv Inc #	128.13	137.04†	+ 0.09	3.51
-do- Accum #	311.41	333.06†	+ 0.22	3.51
UK Index	196.90	197.89†	+ 0.64	3.15
UK Smaller Cos	230.16	246.16	- 1.43	0.37
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.77	25.67†	+ 0.08	7.21
High Income	37.40	39.93	+ 0.24	4.56
UK Growth & Inc	174.36	186.53	+ 0.94	3.06
Global Bond	27.46	28.47†	+ 0.01	4.78
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	50.26	53.75†	- 0.26	..
Global Managed	144.74	153.83†	+ 0.16	1.27
Gold & Intl Res	105.68	113.03	+ 0.17	.
Global Utilities	157.97	168.67	+ 0.53	0.90
Overseas Funds				
American	199.20	211.12	+ 0.86	0.64
European	148.94	157.94†	+ 1.01	0.65
Euro Sel Opps	230.49	244.74	+ 1.06	..
Amer Emerging	151.51	161.53	+ 0.12	..
Hong Kong	182.67	195.35†	- 1.85	1.10
Japan	181.78	192.91	+ 0.01	.
Pacific Growth	217.60	233.80	- 1.85	.
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	274.01	274.01†	+ 0.12	1.84
Long Term Bal	291.45	291.45†	+ 0.26	2.69
Med Term Bal	238.35	238.35†	+ 0.18	2.87
UK Equity	330.43	330.43	+ 0.10	2.43
UK Emerging Cos	192.12	192.12	- 0.09	1.95
American	347.98	347.98†	+ 1.95	0.52
Japan	106.54	106.54†	- 0.03	
European	384.57	384.57†	+ 2.38	0.77
Index Linked Gilt	190.84	198.84†	+ 0.40	2.68
Fixed Interest	182.35	182.35	+ 0.11	7.23
Amer Emerging	335.77	335.77†	+ 0.23	.
Pacific	219.82	219.82	- 1.30	0.86
Emerging Mkts	134.53	134.53	- 0.57	0.62
Index Strat Japan	112.70	112.70	+ 0.01	0.29
-do- Pacific Rim	196.71	196.71	- 1.55	1.23
-do- Cont Europe	203.76	203.76	+ 0.93	1.36
Index Strat USA	207.64	207.54	+ 2.09	1.45
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	129.41	137.66	+ 0.06	...
Med Term Bal	114.52	121.82	+ 0.09	.
Long Term Bal	131.55	139.94	+ 0.12	.
UK Equity	153.94	163.76	- 0.01	.
UK Emerging Cos	90.52	96.29	- 0.05	.
American	161.38	171.68	+ 0.98	.
Japan	50.94	54.19	- 0.02	.
European	159.94	170.14	+ 1.05	.
Fixed Interest	94.32	100.34	+ 0.33	.
Index Linked Gilt	85.05	90.47	+ 0.19	
Deposit	90.24	95.99		.
Broker Unit Trusts				
SWH Intl	160.44	168.88†	- 0.61	0.50
Brcwll Gth Port Inc	75.48	79.86	- 0.17	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	67.21	70.93†	.	4.25
-do- Wwide Port	58.46	61.70	- 0.36	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	680.94	724.40	- 1.49	0.60
-do- Accum	772.94	822.27	- 1.69	0.60
European Inc	188.22	200.06	+ 1.13	1.08
Amalgam Inc	165.87	176.46	+ 1.12	.
N America Inc	403.60	429.36	- 0.15	.
Far East Inc	352.96	375.49	- 1.22	0.17
-do- Accum	366.34	389.72	- 1.28	0.17
UK Devld Inc	228.86	243.47	+ 5.51	1.71
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	127.460	135.830	+ 0.16	.
Do NAV to Jun 20	123.59	123.59	..	.
UK Equity Safeguard	100.82	107.81	+ 0.29	
Do NAV to Jan 20	98.69	98.69		.
Cash	9.5047	9.6427		5.25
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	313.80	333.60	+ 2.60	2.27
British Growth	75.99	81.26	+ 0.40	2.56
UK Small Cos	76.32	81.62†	.	0.62
FTSE 250 Index	94.03	100.63	+ 0.10	2.12
Geared UK Index	18.0092	19.1070†	+ 0.16	4.75
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	100.50	107.47†	+ 0.50	4.09
Corp Bd	77.82	80.36	+ 0.04	
Monthly Inc	40.72	43.43†	..	8.82
International Funds				
American Gen	242.60	256.80	+ 1.50	.
American Strat	204.32	218.57	- 0.30	.
JG US Index	19.6803	20.7358	+ 0.41	4.00
European Gen	290.10	308.70	+ 0.90	
European Strat	129.64	138.64	+ 0.80	.
Japan Gen	128.50	136.00	- 0.20	.
Japan Strat	44.50	47.57	..	.
Asia Pacific	96.92	103.65	- 0.66	.
Pacific Strat	158.33	169.33†	- 1.30	.
Greater China	241.18	257.94	- 4.00	
Latin America	112.99	120.83	- 0.10	
Intl Growth	164.70	176.14	- 0.50	.
Balanced Exempt	141.90	147.10	..	
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 9658				
European	625.90	668.60	- 1.40	0.16
Gilt & Fixed	130.70	138.60	+ 0.20	5.64
Growth Equity	489.50	522.90	+ 1.90	1.21
Income Trust	167.30	178.70	+ 1.40	3.86
International	209.30	223.60†	+ 0.40	0.10
Japan Trust	102.40	109.30	- 0.10	.
Nth American	361.70	386.40†	+ 1.00	
Pacific	565.90	593.90†	- 2.60	0.09
Guardhill	704.20	752.30	+ 2.60	1.29
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	99.07	102.79	+ 0.20	5.90
Global High Inc	94.63	98.24	+ 0.17	6.05
Corporate Bond	104.31	108.29	+ 0.16	7.61
Eqty & Bond Inc	117.08	124.48†	+ 0.33	4.91
European Growth	138.39	147.14	+ 0.85	...
Intl PEP Trust	74.07	78.75	+ 0.37	.
Equity Inc	148.58	157.97	+ 0.29	3.48
-do- Accum	221.42	235.43	+ 0.47	3.48
Recovery	444.10	472.20†	+ 0.70	2.31
-do- Accum	533.90	567.60	+ 0.70	2.31
St Vinc High Inc	134.99	137.01†	+ 0.53	7.13
UK Emerg Cos	336.90	358.30	- 0.30	2.57
UK Smlr Cos	438.50	446.20	- 0.50	2.87
Glob Priv Tst	135.39	143.95	- 0.40	1.07
-do- Accum	140.76	149.67	- 0.41	1.07
Inc Share Tst	95.85	101.91	+ 0.08	8.63
Small Cos	107.89	114.70	- 0.07	2.13
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	58.56	62.09	+ 0.19	3.40
Balanced Acc	63.04	66.84	+ 0.21	3.40
Growth	36.20	38.38	+ 0.07	1.96
Growth Acc	37.70	39.97	+ 0.07	1.96
Income	34.86	36.96†	+ 0.20	4.17
Income Acc	37.83	40.11	+ 0.23	4.17
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	29.10	31.53	+ 0.18	2.98
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 350				
High Provider	100.40	103.70†	+ 0.10	6.53
Model Ptflo	262.70	276.20	+ 1.30	2.09
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 690 380 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Port Acc	47.62	50.53	+ 0.04	1.39
HENDERSON INVESTORS Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 484646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	382.11	408.84	+ 2.00	0.73
Best of British	80.24	85.29	+ 0.11	2.15
UK Smaller Cos	162.69	174.88	- 0.41	0.73
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	337.50	359.49	+ 1.69	3.36
-do- Accum #	965.12	£10.27	+ 4.81	3.36
High Income	365.90	391.14†	+ 1.20	4.04
Extra Income #	314.96	334.95†	+ 1.34	5.71
Pref & Bond	48.86	51.52†	+ 0.04	8.25
International				
Ethical	127.13	135.96	+ 0.02	1.63
International	326.09	346.57†	+ 0.39	
Global Bond	53.14	55.94†	+ 0.06	5.30
Intl Port Tst	102.68	109.71	- 0.36	0.34
Global Tech	201.09	215.73	+ 1.56	.
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	194.33	207.81	- 1.94	0.24
European	670.05	709.45†	+ 2.06	0.30
European Income #	100.02	105.93	+ 0.27	2.90
Euro Smlr Cos	215.77	230.59†	- 0.44	0.84
European Value	100.82	107.64†	- 0.53	0.03
-do- Accum	108.87	116.24	- 0.58	0.03
Japan Trust	174.94	188.17	+ 0.33	...

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	155.68	165.03†	+ 0.36	.
Pacific Smlr Cos	218.73	233.03†	- 1.86	...
North American	334.09	354.33	+ 2.30	
American Spcltir	162.39	173.54†	- 0.57	
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	169.70	178.70	.	5.09
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	134.51	140.84†	+ 0.67	1.85
Capital	214.93	225.06	+ 0.58	1.49
Dollar	518.83	543.28	+ 3.67	.
Enterprise Gth	451.31	472.57†	+ 1.60	0.77
European	298.76	312.84	- 0.41	0.09
Far East	351.44	365.78	- 2.11	0.47
Financial	£12.02	£12.59†	+ 16.24	1.59
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.14	27.19†	+ 0.06	7.05
High Yield #	121.65	127.27	+ 0.58	4.71
Income & Growth #	176.90	185.24†	+ 1.18	3.54
International	295.11	309.02	+ 0.35	0.38
Japanese General	164.35	172.10	- 0.08	.
Japan Tech	74.44	77.95	- 0.05	.
Nat Resources	76.37	79.97†	..	0.39
Portfolio	87.75	91.89†	+ 0.26	1.47
Special Sits	238.74	249.99	- 0.32	0.13
UK Emerging Cos	139.00	145.55	+ 0.06	1.02
US Smaller Cos	144.13	150.92	+ 0.03	..
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	708.40	747.50	+ 4.40	4.50
UK Growth	769.00	816.40†	+ 1.98	1.47
High Income #	124.30	132.70†	+ 0.60	5.79
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	680.10	698.60†	+ 5.40	0.30
European Gwth	160.90	171.10	+ 0.70	0.12
Japan Gwth	226.80	241.00	+ 0.10	.
Japan Smlr Cos	24.50	26.15	+ 0.02	.
Asian	59.37	63.36	- 0.61	.
Sing & Malay Gwth	81.50	86.98	- 0.73	
Hong Kong Gwth	181.40	193.40†	- 2.00	0.90
Global Bond	20.75	21.88	.	5.01
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	185.40	186.30	+ 0.60	2.89
Triton Index	136.50	139.90	- 0.10	2.06
THE FOOTSIE FUND	73.36	73.73	+ 0.31	2.24
Index Funds-International				
American Index	316.20	317.80	+ 3.70	0.94
Eurotrack 100	212.10	213.20	+ 1.10	1.38
Japan Index	58.42	58.72	+ 0.05	0.11
Tiger Index	178.70	182.90	- 3.00	0.16
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	55.46	57.92	- 0.08	1.16
General Funds				
Managed Dist	93.09	97.22	- 0.01	1.06
Managed	95.94	100.20		1.06
Rupert Child Fnd	115.20	120.20†	+ 0.50	1.93
UK Growth	78.03	81.49	+ 0.09	1.60
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	94.70	98.90	+ 0.25	5.46
Gilt & Fixed Int #	26.98	27.87†	+ 0.05	7.57
UK Inc & Gwth	52.70	56.04†	+ 0.22	2.87
UK Income #	408.90	427.10†	+ 0.90	4.29
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	63.03	65.30†	+ 0.45	.
Amer Smllr Cos	142.40	148.70	+ 0.40	
-do- Accum	143.90	150.30	+ 0.42	
Europe Gth	255.30	266.60	- 0.40	.
-do- Accum	264.50	276.20	- 0.40	...
Euro Smaller Cos	48.19	50.17	- 0.23	
French Growth	103.30	107.30	+ 1.50	0.18
-do- Accum	111.30	116.10	+ 1.50	0.18
H Kong & China	122.40	127.50	- 1.80	0.64
Intl Growth	70.19	73.13	+ 0.25	0.37
-do- Accum	71.52	74.52	+ 0.26	0.37
Japan Gth	23.83	24.84	+ 0.05	
-do- Accum	23.83	24.84	+ 0.05	..
Japan Smaller Cos	26.88	28.06	+ 0.05	
Glob Emg Mkts	101.40	105.90	- 0.30	.
-do- Accum	102.10	106.60	- 0.30	0.11
SE Asia	336.20	351.10†	- 5.00	
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	49.57	51.04	+ 0.05	6.40
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
Sector Value Inc #	114.20	121.60†	+ 0.80	3.36
Sector Value Gwth	117.40	125.00†	+ 0.80	1.89
Hy 5 Europe	106.70	112.10	+ 0.30	1.99
Slater Gwth	207.90	221.80	- 0.30	0.91
New Japan	76.00	80.22	- 0.12	.
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	167.60	178.20	- 2.10	
Income #	241.74	257.16	+ 0.29	4.03
UK Growth	93.69	99.86	- 0.15	1.86
Intl Growth	91.06	96.87	+ 0.40	0.58
Ecology	110.54	117.58†	- 0.25	0.88
European	227.19	241.69	+ 0.22	0.21
Far Eastern	311.10	330.90	+ 0.40	
UK Special Sits	59.40	63.35†	- 0.27	0.38
Fd of Inv Tsts	56.14	59.88	+ 0.05	..
High Income #	54.90	58.56†	+ 0.22	4.78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A most Gratifying Ale.

Brewed by Morland of Abingdon. Est'd. 1711.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	101.30	104.60†	+ 0.20	7.15
Euro Ptfr Inc	109.20	116.20	+ 0.70	2.75
-do- Accum	109.20	116.20	+ 0.70	2.75
Gilt Yield	119.79	126.20†	+ 0.50	8.41
Global Income	237.50	252.70	+ 0.70	3.16
High Yield	175.30	186.50†	+ 1.60	5.00
-do- Accum	590.80	628.50†	+ 5.00	5.00
Money Market	99.64	99.64†	+ 0.01	5.39
Smlr Cos Div	67.10	71.38	- 0.01	3.62
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	10.46	10.61	+ 0.05	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	152.10	159.70	- 0.10	
Asian Growth	300.60	320.00	- 5.40	
-do- Accum	353.50	376.10	- 6.39	
North American	114.60	121.90	+ 0.60	
European Special	140.40	149.40	- 0.30	1.11
European	192.60	204.90	+ 1.60	0.47
-do- Accum	255.00	271.30	+ 2.20	0.47
Global Eqty Inc	126.30	134.10†	+ 0.60	2.08
Japan	345.10	367.10	- 1.20	.
Japanese Special	178.80	190.00†	- 0.50	
Smaller Cos	160.20	170.40	- 3.90	0.98
UK Equity Growth	60.97	64.85†	+ 0.38	1.10
UK Index Inc	373.90	375.80	+ 2.30	3.53
Barclays Tst	111.60	118.90†	+ 0.80	2.09
-do- Accum	113.50	121.90†	+ 0.80	2.09
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	337.08	358.60†	+ 2.38	4.60
Esk Growth	102.21	108.73†	+ 0.66	1.38
Inc & Growth	75.68	80.51	+ 0.37	3.52
Smaller Cos	99.39	105.62†	- 0.25	1.13
Ever Sml Cos Inc	253.00	269.15	- 0.06	2.13
Ever Sml Cos Acc	456.95	486.12	- 0.09	2.13
Ever Recovery Inc	64.12	68.21	- 0.01	1.99
Ever Recovery Acc	66.92	71.19	- 0.01	1.99
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 690 432				
UK Cap	495.40	525.60	+ 1.20	1.66
UK Inc/Gth #	530.40	562.80	+ 1.90	3.41
UK Income #	379.80	403.00	+ 1.40	4.19
UK Sm Cos	321.20	343.50†	- 0.30	1.71
Euro Gwth	171.20	181.60	+ 1.00	0.16
N Amer Gwth	125.10	132.70†	+ 0.90	...
Japan Growth	47.65	50.56	+ 0.06	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist @	642.20	642.20†	+ 1.90	2.50
-do- Accum @	£13.39	£13.39†	+ 4.00	2.50
Equity Income @#	111.00	111.00	+ 0.50	4.88
UK Tactical Allocn @	74.00	74.00†	+ 0.29	4.32
European @	156.40	156.40	+ 0.90	0.84
Far Eastern @	216.50	216.50	- 1.10	
Fixed Interest @	54.86	54.86	+ 0.06	7.10
Gilt @	91.13	91.13†	+ 0.10	6.29
Global Growth @	81.12	81.12	+ 0.08	0.35
Intl Bond @	48.81	48.81	+ 0.06	5.37
Japanese @	58.93	58.93	+ 0.08	...
North American @	231.00	231.00	+ 1.60	0.50
Pacific Growth @	119.20	119.20†	- 0.70	0.18
Pacific Index @	46.53	46.53	- 0.33	...
UK Index @	84.17	84.17†	+ 0.28	2.99
UK Recovery @	122.60	122.60†	+ 0.50	1.87
UK Smaller Cos @	169.80	169.80	+ 0.30	1.12
US Index @	91.49	91.49	+ 0.59	1.06
European Index @	98.61	98.61	+ 0.60	1.54
Japan Index @	30.55	30.55	+ 0.04	
Worldwide @	103.20	103.20	+ 0.30	1.41
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS 01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	61.61	65.89	+ 0.28	2.58
Income	72.04	77.04	+ 0.42	4.00
Far East	45.09	48.22†	- 0.19	
North American	130.80	139.60	+ 0.40	..
Global	96.12	102.80	...	0.31
European	107.50	114.70		0.70
Japan	77.28	82.63	+ 0.13	.
Intl Currency Bd	55.51	58.81†	+ 0.05	4.89
SE Asia	99.02	105.90†	- 0.90	0.34
UK Cap Growth	111.50	119.20†	+ 0.20	1.50
Recovery Trust	97.99	104.80†	+ 1.70	1.35
Managed	74.65	79.83	- 0.56	1.63
Cash	50.47	50.47	.	4.28
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 338 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	448.70	477.40	+ 2.30	2.08
-do- Accum	£10.72	£11.41	+ 6.00	2.08
Contl Euro Gth	86.36	90.80	+ 0.08	0.16
-do- Accum	93.41	98.33	+ 0.09	0.16
Extra Inc #	313.50	333.60	+ 1.90	3.88
Extra Inc Acc #	874.40	930.30	+ 5.50	3.88
FTSE 100 Inc	137.10	145.90	+ 0.80	2.64
FTSE 100 Acc	143.20	152.40	+ 0.90	2.64
German Gth	154.10	162.30	+ 0.50	.
-do- Accum	161.60	170.30	+ 0.60	
Growth Port	702.00	746.90	- 6.70	0.09
-do- Accum	731.60	778.30	- 7.00	0.09
High Interest Inc	100.40	104.10†	+ 0.30	7.48
High Interest Acc	109.70	113.70	+ 0.30	7.48
HI Reserve Inc #	111.60	118.80	+ 0.50	5.83
HI Reserve Acc #	124.40	132.40	+ 0.50	5.83
Income Inc #	599.40	637.70†	- 2.60	3.42
Income Acc #	£17.40	£18.52	- 6.00	3.42
Income Port	589.10	627.40†	+ 7.00	4.31
-do- Accum	690.60	734.70	+ 8.20	4.31
Japan Growth	83.92	89.29	- 0.10	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	84.22	88.60	- 0.09	.
Master Trust	71.31	75.87	+ 0.21	1.31
-do- Accum	82.35	87.61	+ 0.24	1.31
Millennium Acc	104.20	110.90	+ 2.10	2.16
N American Gen	256.70	273.10	+ 2.30	...
-do- Accum	297.10	316.10	+ 2.60	.
NAm Sm Co Rec	168.10	178.90	+ 0.10	.
-do- Accum	171.60	182.60	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	239.10	254.40	- 1.50	0.47
-do- Accum	254.80	271.20	- 1.80	0.47
Safety First Acc	99.56	104.80	+ 0.40	2.03
Do nozl 12/1/98 1	90.25	..		
Small Cos Rec	552.80	581.90†	+ 0.10	1.82
-do- Accum	769.50	810.10		1.82
UK Eq Gth	182.70	194.40	+ 3.10	2.29
UK Eq Inc #	141.10	150.20†	+ 1.00	4.89
UK Growth	116.20	123.70	+ 0.58	1.74
-do- Accum	147.10	156.50	+ 0.70	1.74
Worldwide Gth	358.20	381.10	+ 1.10	0.37
-do- Accum	529.90	563.80	+ 1.60	0.37
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 873				
American	93.54	100.11	+ 0.42	0.00
General	118.04	126.65	+ 0.61	2.70
Income	80.02	85.85†	+ 0.50	4.00
International	73.95	79.34	+ 0.06	0.50
Japan	45.86	49.17	- 0.04	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	80.06	85.90†		1.00
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Alsd Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	534.10	564.10	+ 0.40	0.43
-do- Accum	669.30	706.80	+ 0.40	0.43
Amer Recovery	618.40	654.00†	+ 3.60	0.17
-do- Accum	715.20	756.70†	+ 4.10	0.17
Amer Smlr Cos	138.50	146.50	+ 1.50	.
-do- Accum	141.50	149.70	+ 1.50	
Australasian	225.60	238.60	+ 0.40	1.98
-do- Accum	286.00	302.60	+ 0.50	1.98
Capital	1028.20	1087.20	+ 3.80	2.83
-do- Accum	1240.40	1311.70	+ 4.60	2.83
Charifund	858.50	868.10	+ 4.90	5.53
-do- Accum	4526.10	4571.40	+ 28.80	5.53
Commodity	495.50	524.00	- 2.80	0.35
-do- Accum	732.70	774.80	- 3.10	0.35
Compound Gwth	1179.70	1247.50†	+ 3.70	2.79
-do- Accum	1319.30	1395.00†	+ 4.10	2.79
Corporate Bond	26.05	26.14†	+ 0.06	7.30
Dividend	47.90	50.70	+ 0.35	4.64
-do- Accum	217.40	230.30	+ 1.80	4.64
Equity Income	351.70	371.90	- 0.20	5.38
-do- Accum	498.30	527.00	- 0.30	5.38
Euro & General	687.90	727.50	+ 0.58	0.67
-do- Accum	883.50	934.40	+ 0.80	0.67
Euro Dividend	87.60	92.60	+ 0.10	3.57
-do- Accum	112.40	118.80	+ 0.10	3.57
Euro Smll Cos	56.40	59.60	- 0.50	0.50
-do- Accum	56.40	59.60	- 0.50	0.50
Extra Yield	503.40	532.30†	+ 3.40	5.03
-do- Accum	1728.00	1827.60†	+ 12.00	5.03
Fund of Inv Tsts	737.80	780.20	- 0.60	1.56
-do- Accum	1425.20	1507.20	- 1.10	1.56
General	74.60	78.90	+ 0.40	3.70
-do- Accum	223.90	236.90	+ 1.30	3.70
Gilt Income	62.73	62.83	+ 0.11	6.90
-do- Accum	195.58	195.88	+ 0.33	6.90
Gold	64.50	68.20	- 1.00	1.04
-do- Accum	77.40	81.80	- 1.20	1.04
High Income	35.90	38.00	+ 0.39	4.66
-do- Accum	156.30	165.80	+ 0.80	4.66
Intl Growth	90.80	96.00	- 0.10	0.83
-do- Accum	160.90	170.10	- 0.10	0.83
International Inc	114.60	121.20†	+ 0.20	4.36
-do- Accum	186.30	197.10†	+ 0.30	4.36
Japan & Gen	30.40	32.00		.
-do- Accum	32.60	34.40		
Japan Smlr Cos	106.40	112.50†	+ 0.10	
-do- Accum	107.20	113.30†	+ 0.10	..
Managed Gwth	27.80	29.30	.	1.63
Managed Income	31.50	33.10†	+ 0.10	4.76
Midland	62.30	65.30†	- 0.10	3.17
-do- Accum	221.90	234.60†	- 0.40	3.17
Pension Ex	1172.90	1202.30	+ 3.30	4.08
Recovery	49.50	52.30	+ 0.30	2.89
-do- Accum	85.80	90.80	+ 0.30	2.89
Second General	79.30	83.80	.	3.80
-do- Accum	219.10	231.80	.	3.80
Smaller Cos	68.00	71.90	.	3.10
-do- Accum	143.00	151.20	.	3.10
Sth East Asia	386.80	409.00	- 3.50	1.28
-do- Accum	519.00	548.90	- 4.80	1.28
Treasury	25.11	25.16†	+ 0.01	5.90
Tracker	46.90	49.60†	+ 0.20	4.95
-do- Accum	207.98	220.30†	+ 0.90	4.95
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	109.33	116.30†	+ 0.39	0.50
Intl Bond	62.34	65.48	- 0.07	4.96
Intl Equity Growth	86.80	92.32	+ 0.22	0.61
N Amer Growth	143.08	152.01†	+ 0.67	0.85
Special Sits Growth	30.82	32.78†	+ 0.16	2.09
UK Growth	503.58	538.15†	+ 2.59	2.58
-do- Accum	703.04	747.91	+ 3.61	2.58
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1483.40	1506.20	..	3.38
Income #	1080.30	1086.60	.	4.50
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	181.80	185.50†	...	4.13
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 0800 363432				
High Inc #	96.28	99.28	+ 0.44	8.76
M & S Inv Ptflo	188.20	194.10	+ 0.80	2.39
-do- Accum	225.60	232.60	+ 1.00	2.39
UK Sel Ptflo	172.40	177.70	+ 1.00	2.36
-do- Accum	209.80	216.30	+ 1.20	2.36
UK 100 Cos	130.80	138.80†	+ 1.00	2.47
-do- Accum	134.00	134.00†	+ 1.00	2.47
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	71.16	75.70		3.51
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	90.80	96.39†	+ 0.50	3.12
European	110.50	117.30	.	0.81
Income #	91.73	97.38	+ 0.71	3.21
Nth American	100.40	106.50	- 0.30	0.02
Far East	176.90	187.80	- 1.20	0.19
Japan	54.08	57.41†	- 0.08	.
Emging Mkts	96.20	102.90	- 0.80	
Intl Growth	138.50	147.00†	- 0.10	0.39
UK Growth	133.20	141.40	+ 0.70	2.14
UK Smlr Co	66.87	70.99	- 0.05	1.32
Asia Pacific	38.35	41.02	- 0.28	0.38
Glob Emg PEP	68.10	72.29	+ 0.08	0.33
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0181 891 7433				
Select Portfolio	102.90	109.50†	- 0.40	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	504.75	536.97†	+ 2.33	3.27
Global Inc	78.18	83.17†	+ 0.18	3.61
Brit Leaders	410.82	437.04†	+ 1.76	1.56
Intl Leaders	239.01	254.27†	+ 0.63	0.69
PAM Mg Bal Gth	73.86	76.74†	- 0.28	0.35
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	290.30	306.39	+ 2.300	.
-do- Accum	310.40	327.60	+ 2.500	
American Opps	109.20	116.50	- 0.40	
-do- Accum	110.60	118.00	- 0.40	..
British Blue Chip	106.70	113.20†	+ 0.600	2.66
-do- Accum	139.10	147.70†	+ 0.900	2.66
Cash	100.20	100.20†	.	5.54
-do- Accum	152.00	152.00†		5.54
Emerging Mkts	144.70	155.00	- 0.80	0.67
-do- Accum	145.90	156.90	- 0.80	0.67
European Growth	352.90	373.20	+ 0.400	0.51
-do- Accum	384.80	407.00	+ 0.500	0.51
European Income	95.20	100.80	+ 0.100	4.07
-do- Accum	138.30	146.40	+ 0.100	4.07
General	648.00	689.40†	+ 5.700	2.29
-do- Accum	1343.00	1429.00†	+ 12.00	2.29
Global Bond	125.70	132.00†		5.38
-do- Accum	170.80	179.50†	+ 0.100	5.38
Gold & General	188.00	201.40	- 1.40	0.36
-do- Accum	194.50	208.30	- 1.50	0.36
Govt Securities	95.78	98.74	+ 0.180	5.80
-do- Accum	205.70	212.80	+ 0.400	5.80
High Yield Bd	102.50	105.00†	+ 0.180	6.95
-do- Accum	111.90	114.70†	+ 0.200	6.95
Income	206.30	219.10	+ 1.800	4.11
-do- Accum	349.80	371.40	+ 2.900	4.11
Inc Portfolio #	118.10	124.50†	+ 0.500	5.02
-do- Accum #	132.00	139.60†	+ 0.500	5.02
Intl Opps	560.80	598.20	- 1.10	0.81
-do- Accum	759.80	810.50	- 1.30	0.81
Japan	145.10	154.80	- 0.10	.
-do- Accum	149.00	158.90	- 0.10	
New Europe	258.40	275.60	- 0.50	1.02
-do- Accum	271.10	289.20	- 0.70	1.02
Pacific	107.00	114.10	- 1.20	0.49
-do- Accum	115.30	123.00	- 1.20	0.49
Recovery	500.70	534.10†	+ 1.600	1.82
-do- Accum	666.70	711.10†	+ 2.100	1.82
UK Smaller Cos	65.87	70.26	- 0.12	1.44
-do- Accum	76.22	81.30	- 0.13	1.44
Portfolio	98.68	104.60†	+ 0.400	2.47
-do- Accum	123.40	130.80†	+ 0.500	2.47
Managed Gwth	127.50	133.40	+ 0.300	1.90
Managed Inc	125.50	130.70	+ 0.500	4.09
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	167.75	178.46	+ 0.38	0.13
Portfolio	85.42	90.87	+ 0.29	1.32
UK Income Inc	100.44	106.85	+ 0.88	4.42
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	72.89	76.32†	+ 0.15	2.55
-do- Accum	81.65	85.50†	+ 0.18	2.55
British Tst	116.60	122.10	+ 0.40	2.24
-do- Accum	142.60	149.30	+ 0.50	2.24
Corp Bond Inc	100.50	104.10	+ 0.20	6.54
-do- Accum	105.60	109.40	+ 0.20	6.54
Extra High Inc	74.21	77.71†	+ 0.26	6.65
-do- Accum	164.20	171.90†	+ 0.50	6.65
FTSE 100 Acc	78.56	82.26	+ 0.35	2.22
FTSE 100 Dist	73.21	76.66	+ 0.33	2.22
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.17	58.45	+ 0.05	6.43
-do- Accum	183.70	191.10	+ 0.10	6.43
High Yield	257.30	269.40	+ 1.20	5.35
-do- Accum	720.30	754.20	+ 3.58	5.35
Household Names	102.30	107.80	+ 0.30	2.24
Income	350.80	367.30	+ 2.00	3.70
-do- Accum	836.90	875.30	+ 4.80	3.70
Money Market UT	49.75	49.75	.	5.18
-do- Accum	85.17	85.17	..	5.18

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Monthly Income	101.30	106.10†	+ 0.50	4.15
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	149.20	157.70	- 0.90	1.24
European Growth	148.80	155.60	- 1.00	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	103.30	109.50	+ 0.10	5.07
Income	115.10	122.40	+ 0.80	2.09
Japan Growth	38.69	41.23		..
Managed	88.13	94.07	- 0.41	1.85
Money Market	98.07	104.00	.	3.86
North American	115.70	122.60	- 0.90	0.37
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	135.80	144.50	+ 0.70	1.22
European Growth	137.70	145.90	- 1.60	0.41
Gilt & Fixed Int	97.00	102.90	+ 0.10	5.11
Income	112.70	119.80	+ 0.70	2.14
Japan Growth	38.79	41.11		..
Managed	85.70	91.17	+ 0.23	1.82
Money Market	90.24	95.76		3.84
North American	104.10	110.40	- 0.88	0.44
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	134.70	143.30	+ 0.70	1.22
European Growth	134.70	142.80	- 1.58	
Gilt & Fixed Int	87.23	92.51	+ 0.10	5.33
Income	109.50	116.50	+ 0.70	2.19
Japan Growth	39.65	42.02		
Managed	88.32	93.96	+ 0.24	1.85
Money Market	82.04	86.97		4.00
North American	116.70	123.70	- 0.90	0.34
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	471.50	508.80	+ 5.20	..
European Gth Inc	604.60	645.40	- 0.90	..
-do- Accum	611.26	652.50	- 0.80	.
Intl Gwth	237.30	251.40	+ 1.70	..
UK Equity Inc	242.10	257.80†	+ 1.18	4.07
Do. Accum	335.30	356.80†	+ 1.49	4.01
UK Growth Inc	139.50	149.40	+ 0.50	3.18
-do- Accum	143.80	154.00	+ 0.40	3.18
UK Ind Tnds Inc	212.40	226.50	+ 0.70	2.99
-do- Accum	265.40	283.10	+ 0.90	2.99
US Eq Ind Tnk Inc	303.60	321.40†	+ 3.48	0.93
Japan Tracker	55.84	58.07	+ 0.10	..
Asian Tracker	216.10	233.00†	- 1.80	0.28
Mngd Ptflio Inc	200.30	213.40	+ 0.70	1.65
Mngd Ptflio Acc	219.70	234.20	+ 0.70	1.65
Deposit Inc	100.20	100.20†	+ 0.01	5.56
Europa	271.00	290.40		..
Genesis	227.80	246.00	+ 0.20	2.30
High Income	20.86	22.13†	+ 0.03	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 033				
Acumen	115.10	117.70†	+ 0.40	1.96
Acumen Inc	103.60	105.90†	+ 0.30	1.96
Acumen Reserve	98.53	99.51†	+ 0.26	6.87
-do- Inc	73.94	74.68†	+ 0.20	6.87
American Growth	71.62	73.65	- 0.33	.
Equity Income #	115.00	118.00†	+ 1.00	3.81
European	90.44	92.05	- 0.13	0.16
Smaller Cos	103.80	108.30	...	0.93
W'wide Eqty	79.36	81.01	- 0.03	.
Global Bond	41.05	41.48	- 0.03	5.28
UK Growth	126.50	130.20†	+ 1.00	1.16
Pacific Growth	110.60	113.70	- 1.74	0.43
Japan Growth	84.47	85.83	+ 0.70	..
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Amm Equity	163.13	173.54	+ 1.14	2.35
For N&P see Abbey National				
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
American Dist	130.00	136.80	+ 0.80	0.23
European Dist	164.20	172.80	+ 0.70	0.28
Far East Dist	170.60	179.60	- 1.00	..
Global Care Dist	91.29	96.09	- 0.15	0.48
Oseas Dist	1129.40	1188.80†	- 0.50	.
-do- Accum	1467.90	1545.20	- 0.40	
UK Dist	470.70	495.50	+ 1.70	1.64
-do- Accum	966.20	1017.00	+ 3.40	1.64
UK Extra Inc Dist	99.99	105.25	+ 0.20	3
Wwide Dist	120.10	126.40†	.	0.09
Wwide Inc Dist	90.73	95.51†	+ 0.23	1.45
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 396				
Europe Inc	85.91	90.67†	+ 0.42	0.33
Fund of Funds Inc	73.17	77.22	+ 0.10	1.33
North America Inc	68.26	72.04	+ 0.23	.
UK Equity Gth Inc	75.85	80.05	+ 0.74	1.92
-do- Accum	82.42	86.99	+ 0.80	1.92
UK General Inc	72.30	76.31†	+ 0.54	2.42
-do- Accum	81.01	85.50	+ 0.60	2.42
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	47.23	49.74†	+ 0.05	5.61
UK Income Inc	72.23	76.23	+ 0.26	4.00
UK Smlr Cos Inc	126.10	133.10†	- 0.20	0.97
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	54.06	57.53	+ 0.29	..
-do- Accum	54.50	57.97	+ 0.29	.
Bond	126.34	134.06	+ 0.03	5.39
Cash Income	51.07	51.07	+ 0.01	5.28
-do- Accum	70.78	70.78	+ 0.01	5.28
Distributor	112.87	120.07†	+ 0.36	2.77
European	60.80	64.68	+ 0.37	.
Foundation	119.76	127.40†	+ 0.21	2.46
General Inc	241.93	257.37	+ 0.78	1.34
General Acc	245.43	261.09	+ 0.79	1.34
Growth Inc	153.48	163.27†	- 0.16	2.04
Growth Acc	159.25	169.41†	- 0.17	2.04
Higher Income Inc	35.32	37.57†	+ 0.71	4.75
-do- Accum	43.79	46.58†	+ 0.87	4.75
Income	290.37	308.90†	+ 1.52	3.27
Intrepid	155.49	161.93	..	1.38
Intl Gwth	40.51	43.09†	+ 0.18	.
Japan	25.03	26.62	+ 0.02	...
Oriental Inc	140.40	149.36	- 1.66	0.38
-do- Accum	145.42	154.70	- 1.72	0.38
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2555				
High Income #	50.84	53.80†	+ 0.28	5.01
UK Growth	125.50	132.80	..	2.47
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	148.81	158.64†	+ 0.32	1.18
UK Equity	185.28	195.03	+ 0.64	2.69
UK Equity Income	167.66	176.49	+ 0.83	3.36
UK Smaller Cos	152.80	160.00	- 0.44	1.23
UK Equity Growth	165.58	174.29†	+ 0.36	1.00
UK Index Trckg	186.76	197.11	+ 1.49	2.57
Intl Index Trckg	173.27	182.87	+ 1.21	0.88
International	282.25	297.11†	+ 0.65	0.72
European	271.06	285.33	+ 1.38	0.15
Pan European	180.08	189.51	+ 0.46	1.20
Nth American	259.64	273.31	+ 1.78	0.54
N Amer Smlr Cos	264.20	278.10	- 0.11	..
Japanese	77.81	81.91	+ 0.17	..
Pacific	222.85	234.50	- 1.89	0.54
South East Asian	265.12	279.07†	- 3.78	0.58
Sterling Bond	101.07	108.39†	+ 0.11	6.89
Intl Bond	124.25	130.79	+ 0.16	5.68
Gilt & Convertible	110.76	116.59	+ 0.12	5.92
Property	87.64	92.25	+ 0.15	5.27
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	374.30	403.00	- 0.90	0.12
-do- Accum	397.50	428.00	- 0.90	0.12
Japan Inc	87.11	92.46	+ 0.11	..
Nth American Inc	168.40	178.50	+ 2.50	0.04
Worldwide Inc	188.10	201.10	+ 0.70	0.12
Hong Kong Inc	187.70	200.20	- 0.80	1.00
Swiss Equities Inc	94.96	101.20†	+ 0.40	..
Wwide Bond Inc	65.58	69.33†	- 0.05	5.22
Emging Asia Inc	179.80	194.30	- 1.90	.
-do- Accum	180.50	195.00	- 1.90	.
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.50	50.50	..	5.29
Thailand Inc	84.06	91.84	- 1.78	2.34
New Zealand Inc	99.79	107.20	+ 0.10	2.25
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	75.65	81.31†	+ 0.42	0.62
Latin Aml Cnsp Inc	77.00	82.44	- 0.18	0.82
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	76.77	78.02†	+ 0.27	2.23
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Bus	84.23	90.19	- 0.31	.
Global Portfolio	73.80	78.93	- 0.34	..
Way Global Red	65.74	70.42	- 0.29	..
Marsh Global Gth	66.93	70.98†	+ 0.11	..
AMR Brit Gwth Inc	117.20	125.40†	+ 0.30	0.69
Temple Equity Inc	51.91	56.37	+ 0.16	2.89
Hadley Growth	131.40	139.80		0.27
Intl Growth Inc	85.16	91.08	+ 0.05	0.01
TPS Portfolio Inc	95.85	102.30	+ 0.90	
Premier Pedras Inc	71.09	76.03	...	1.29
Roxburgh Strat Gth	78.98	84.48	- 0.08	0.16
International Strat	83.48	88.82†	- 0.58	...
UFC Growth	66.08	70.67†	- 0.22	..
Chadfield Port of Fds	57.05	60.53	- 0.18	..
Lowes Intl Growth	48.39	51.88	.	1.24
PM UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	255.80	272.10	- 1.20	1.42
European Gth	142.40	150.80†	- 0.10	0.44
Income & Gth #	168.90	178.70	+ 0.30	2.95
Japan Gth	87.96	93.57†	- 0.16	..
Nth Amer Gth	230.58	244.80†	+ 1.40	0.02
Overseas Gth	125.90	133.80†	- 0.10	
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 828 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	304.90	324.30	+ 1.80	1.82
-do- Accum	674.80	717.60	+ 4.00	1.82
Growth	198.00	209.00	+ 1.10	2.05
Income	287.70	306.00†	- 2.30	3.52
Intl Equity	285.90	305.20	+ 0.30	0.25
-do- Accum	321.30	341.70	+ 0.20	0.25
UK Income #	79.82	84.90	+ 0.54	4.85
UK Intl 25	102.00	108.50	+ 0.50	1.34
New Europe	112.50	119.60	- 0.20	.
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	731.76	781.65	+ 2.14	0.68
-do- Accum	736.30	786.51	+ 2.16	0.68
Income	499.91	534.67†	+ 6.00	2.87
Wwide Recovery	474.60	507.60	+ 0.71	0.60
Amer Growth Inc	299.96	319.32	+ 1.80	0.01
-do- Accum	299.96	319.32	+ 1.80	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	284.44	304.22	- 0.68	0.60
Far Estn Gth Inc	303.98	325.12	- 1.83	0.78
-do- Accum	307.78	329.18	- 1.86	0.78
Euro Gwth Inc	206.82	220.56	+ 1.08	0.73
-do- Accum	207.33	221.33	+ 1.09	0.73
UK Growth Inc	129.17	138.18	+ 1.28	2.46
-do- Accum	141.97	151.85	+ 1.40	2.46
High Income	130.22	139.28	+ 1.72	3.36
Jap Gwth Inc	155.65	166.48	- 0.65	0.01
-do- Accum	155.65	166.48	- 0.65	0.01
PEP Bond	57.10	59.67	+ 0.08	7.18
PEP Growth	154.33	165.01	+ 0.77	0.70
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	131.26	140.39	- 1.53	0.42
-do- Accum	131.69	140.85	- 1.53	0.42
Amer Smlr Co Inc	187.89	200.66	+ 0.38	0.01
-do- Accum	187.89	200.66	+ 0.38	0.01
Global Bond	53.70	56.64	- 0.12	5.17
UK Smaller Cos Inc	117.94	126.14	+ 0.06	1.56
-do- Accum	125.63	134.37	+ 0.06	1.56
Lat Am Gwth Inc	39.80	42.57	- 0.06	0.44
-do- Accum	40.18	42.98	- 0.05	0.44
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0191 201 3927				
American	133.37	141.88	- 1.06	..
European	104.20	110.86	- 0.87	.
Global	70.52	75.02	- 0.39	...
Pacific	55.31	58.62†	- 0.33	..
UK Inc & Gth	87.98	93.57†	+ 0.02	1.45
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Asia Acc	51.04	54.30†	- 0.31	0.01
Emerg Mkts	49.89	52.79	- 0.07	0.98
Euro Fund Acc	45.71	48.63	- 0.38	0.13
Fund of Funds Inc	207.38	219.45†	- 0.97	0.54
Fund of Funds Acc	209.27	221.45	- 0.97	0.54
High Income #	56.59	59.88†	+ 0.81	5.43
Performance	51.03	54.29†	- 0.32	.
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	186.14	192.46	+ 1.18	2.17
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3790 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	129.70	137.90	+ 1.30	2.84
Conv & Gilt	124.60	132.60	+ 0.10	4.83
Euro Spc Sit Acc	102.10	108.70	- 0.10	3.27
Extra Income	193.00	205.40†	+ 0.70	4.46
-do- Accum	256.40	272.70	+ 0.90	4.46
Far East	383.00	407.50	- 3.80	0.60
-do- Accum	391.10	416.00	- 4.00	0.60
Global Income	29.91	31.74	+ 0.02	4.06
High Income	146.00	155.40†	+ 0.60	4.35
-do- Accum	191.00	203.20	+ 0.70	4.35
International	219.60	233.60	- 2.00	0.50
-do- Accum	228.70	243.30	- 2.20	0.50
Pref & Fxd Int	45.89	48.81†	- 0.02	6.93
Recovery	98.88	105.20	+ 0.20	2.29

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	160.70	171.00	- 0.10	1.59
-do- Accum	175.30	186.70	- 0.20	1.59
Technology	633.40	673.80	+ 0.28	...
UK Blue Chip	97.93	104.20	+ 0.50	2.81
-do- Accum	115.40	122.70	+ 0.90	2.81
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD UT Dealing: 0345 406000 Client Enq: 0345 455500				
Managed Tst	47.22	49.93	+ 0.05	1.43
Cash Haven Inc	101.59	102.19	+ 0.01	5.01
Cash Haven Acc	121.54	122.14	+ 0.02	5.01
Dist Trust Inc	110.17	114.17†	+ 0.23	5.48
Dist Trust Acc	127.82	132.46†	+ 0.27	5.48
Global Growth	110.64	117.70	+ 0.26	1.05
Equity Inc	97.49	103.71	+ 0.50	4.11
Equity	959.76	£10.21†	+ 2.68	2.20
European	281.05	301.61	+ 1.86	0.63
High Income	99.09	105.41†	+ 0.23	4.82
Intl Gth	226.65	241.12	+ 0.52	0.82
Intl Sm Co	97.25	103.46†	+ 0.02	0.46
Japanese	163.95	164.90†	+ 0.01	..
Mgd Income Tst #	48.68	50.35†	+ 0.11	8.00
Nth Amer	250.74	268.13	+ 1.89	1.04
Pacific Mkts	112.31	116.38	- 1.74	0.60
Premier Inc	47.87	49.03†	- 0.03	6.60
Sm Cos	114.73	122.05†	- 0.39	1.47
Spec Sits	138.67	147.52	+ 0.14	2.33
UK Growth	163.54	173.98	+ 0.51	2.20
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	90.55	95.22†	+ 0.10	3.38
Investment Fund	124.96	131.49†	+ 0.05	0.67
UK Smaller Cos	119.13	125.27	- 0.31	1.37
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	370.20	392.70†	+ 2.30	2.61
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	715.57	757.97	+ 3.17	0.08
America (Acc)	838.43	888.11	+ 3.71	0.08
Amer Smlr Cos	62.46	66.48	+ 0.47	
Asia	51.11	54.81	- 0.89	
European	440.49	467.30	+ 2.16	0.07
Japan	180.43	191.94	- 0.26	.
Jap Smllr Cos	28.56	30.48	- 0.05	..
Major UK Cos	133.44	142.06	+ 0.70	1.65
Smlr UK Cos	450.30	489.00†	- 1.88	0.70
UK Equity Inc #	204.32	218.22	+ 1.39	3.99
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	50.24	52.46	- 0.42	
Cash	48.41	50.42	+ 0.01	2.84
Emerging Mkts	53.10	55.45	- 0.10	.
Europe	66.66	69.61	- 0.59	.
Global Fixed Int #	48.76	50.92	- 0.13	6.31
Japan	33.78	35.27	- 0.11	..
North America	68.72	71.76	- 0.66	
UK	71.77	74.95	- 0.04	0.53
UK Equity Inc #	67.26	70.24	+ 0.10	3.49
UK Fixed Int #	51.68	53.97	+ 0.08	7.10
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	53.64	55.58	- 0.20	.
Pep Inc Port #	54.25	56.21	.	2.90
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	92.56	97.43	+ 0.01	
Gilt	105.57	111.11	+ 0.37	..
Managed	125.18	131.76	- 1.21	
Portfolio	52.76	55.53	- 0.16	.
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	128.90	136.90	+ 1.20	0.31
Pacific Basin	74.47	79.96	- 0.88	0.32
High Inc Dist	176.10	187.99†	+ 1.20	3.77
Ryl Life Intl Cury	64.48	68.13	+ 0.08	4.16
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	79.93	85.12	- 0.02	0.69
Ryl Life Intl Spec	72.64	77.27	- 0.21	
UK Emerging Cos	147.40	159.30	- 0.50	1.30
UK Index Trckg	219.90	233.60	+ 0.70	3.41
European	185.60	198.80	- 1.20	0.17
Managed	190.80	206.20	+ 0.10	0.94
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	207.10	220.09	+ 0.80	1.11
European Growth	152.60	161.70	- 0.70	1.74
Far East Growth	147.30	156.80	- 0.80	0.79
Japan Growth	99.62	105.90†	- 0.30	.
Special Sits	276.90	294.50†	- 0.80	1.67
UK Growth	115.10	122.40	+ 0.30	2.55
Intl Growth	291.20	309.80†	- 0.20	1.65
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	162.90	172.40	- 1.10	0.54
Gr Euro Prog Inc	473.00	500.50	+ 0.80	0.84
-do- Accum	742.30	785.40	+ 1.30	0.84
Growth Inc	163.50	173.40	+ 0.90	0.66
-do- Accum	168.50	178.30	+ 0.90	0.66
International Inc	432.50	457.70	+ 1.90	0.63
-do- Accum	598.50	633.30	+ 2.60	0.63
Nth Am & Intl Inc	421.60	446.10	- 1.10	0.02
UK Gen Prog Inc	276.60	292.70	+ 1.70	1.54
-do- Accum	320.50	339.20	+ 2.00	1.54
UK High Inc Inc	163.50	173.00	.	4.14
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	126.30	134.35†	- 0.44	0.75
European Gwth	103.25	109.84	+ 0.12	1.09
Global Bd	59.28	62.60†	- 0.01	5.00
Japan	43.91	46.71†	- 0.10	...
UK Gwth	95.89	102.00	+ 0.40	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smllr Cos	140.30	149.30	- 0.89	.
Cash	138.80	138.80†	.	5.47
China Dragon	76.18	81.04	- 0.98	1.10
Commodity	140.80	149.80	- 0.60	.
Emerging Mkts	41.69	44.35	- 0.28	0.41
European Gwth	263.10	279.90	- 0.10	0.60
Euro Smllr Cos	78.35	83.22	- 0.05	....
Extra Income #	61.19	63.41	+ 0.35	5.56
Far Eastern	94.09	100.10	- 0.30	.
FE Sm Cos	41.43	44.07	- 0.03	..
Financial Secs	359.50	382.40	+ 5.70	1.09
Gold & Exploration	84.05	89.42	- 1.64	...
Growth	486.60	489.00	+ 3.10	1.78
High Income	49.92	49.92	+ 0.09	7.49
Intl Bond	152.10	160.60†	- 0.30	5.44
ITU	247.90	263.70†	+ 0.30	0.97
Japan Growth	132.70	140.80	- 0.20	.
Japan Smaller	127.70	135.70†	- 0.20	..
Korea	38.01	40.44	- 0.06	..
Latin America	47.62	50.66	- 0.29	0.39
Masterfund	66.24	66.57	+ 0.06	0.66
Premier Eq Gth	184.50	196.30	+ 1.30	1.07
Premier Eq Inc #	400.80	426.40	+ 3.00	4.50
SE Asia	48.48	49.45	- 0.65	0.02
Southern Africa	57.44	61.11	- 0.18	1.09
UK & O'seas	212.60	226.20	+ 0.90	0.79
UK Eqty Gth	91.09	96.90†	+ 0.62	1.26
UK Eqty Inc #	284.80	303.00	+ 2.30	4.84
UK Gth & Inc #	330.10	351.20	+ 3.00	3.25
UK Sm Cos	82.46	86.45	- 0.18	1.04
US Growth	226.70	241.20	+ 1.10	..
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	369.44	390.65	+ 7.09	0.51
-do- Accum	409.13	432.64	+ 7.85	0.51
European Gwth	98.84	104.74	+ 1.39	0.60
Euro Smllr Cos	119.76	127.34	- 0.16	0.36
Far Eastern Gth	100.60	107.30	- 0.86	..
-do- Accum	102.54	109.38	- 0.86	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	52.49	55.31†	+ 0.33	7.49
Global Bond #	46.27	47.79	- 0.02	6.50
-do- Accum #	56.50	58.36	- 0.02	6.50
Global Emer Mkts	58.22	62.10†	- 0.69	...
-do- Accum	58.33	62.21†	- 0.70	..
Income #	457.49	487.98	+ 3.84	4.64
-do- Accum #	£15.78	£16.84	+ 13.25	4.64
Japan Smllr Cos	287.86	307.06	- 0.83	..
-do- Accum	288.44	307.66	- 0.83	.
Japan Enterprise	53.27	56.82†	- 0.18	
Pacific Gwth	154.15	164.43	- 2.26	0.48
-do- Accum	160.26	170.94	- 2.34	0.48
Portfolio	100.98	107.62	+ 0.53	1.87
-do- Accum	113.21	120.66	+ 0.59	1.87
Seoul	32.46	34.62	- 0.16	.
-do- Accum	32.46	34.62	- 0.16	.
Smaller Cos	364.21	388.49	+ 0.19	1.22
-do- Accum	433.93	462.86	+ 0.23	1.22
Strategic Inc	105.79	112.82	+ 0.28	2.54
Strategic Acc	107.57	114.73	+ 0.29	2.54
Tokyo	110.49	117.85†	- 0.32	.
-do- Accum	111.61	119.04†	- 0.32	...
UK Enterprise	357.78	381.63	+ 1.70	2.37
-do- Accum	448.29	478.17	+ 2.13	2.37
UK Equity	331.44	353.53	+ 2.29	2.53
-do- Accum	675.92	720.99	+ 4.67	2.53
US Smllr Cos	234.22	249.83	+ 1.63	.
-do- Accum	234.22	249.83	+ 1.63	..
Institutional Funds				
European	313.49	335.21	+ 0.89	1.24
-do- Accum	355.78	380.09	+ 1.12	1.24
Euro Smllr Cos	38.90	40.49	- 0.07	0.96
-do- Accum	42.15	43.86	- 0.07	0.96
Global Equity Inc	94.10	97.98†	+ 0.19	1.05
Japan Smllr Cos	27.03	28.15	- 0.04	0.22
-do- Accum	27.29	28.42	- 0.04	0.22
Mngd Balanced	232.76	242.45	+ 0.58	3.56
-do- Accum	278.31	289.89	+ 0.69	3.56
Overseas Equity	222.00	231.24	- 0.17	1.01
-do- Accum	233.81	243.56	- 0.17	1.01
Oseas Smllr Cos	134.62	140.22	- 0.25	0.84
-do- Accum	142.95	148.90	- 0.27	0.84
Pacific	271.49	282.80†	- 3.16	1.38
-do- Accum	304.14	316.81†	- 3.54	1.38
Recovery	£24.98	£26.02	+ 0.22	3.01
-do- Accum	£27.79	£28.95	+ 0.24	3.01
UK Index	205.44	214.00	+ 1.79	3.22
-do- Accum	267.98	279.15	+ 2.33	3.22
UK Small Cos	155.54	162.02	- 0.01	2.37
-do- Accum	174.17	181.42	- 0.02	2.37
US Smllr Cos	64.62	67.31†	+ 0.53	0.46
-do- Accum	66.49	69.25†	+ 0.54	0.46
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	64.99	68.73	+ 0.31	2.67
Equity Trust	84.43	89.39	+ 0.39	2.74
Equity Strategy	97.07	102.65	+ 0.18	1.17
European Opps	113.06	119.56	- 0.43	0.23
UK Smaller Cos	86.60	91.58		1.03
Maximum Inc	96.26	101.84	+ 0.02	6.44
Japanese	59.69	63.12	+ 0.10	...
Asia Pacific	115.16	121.77	- 0.95	0.62
American	147.30	155.77	+ 1.05	0.10
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	34.13	34.13†	.	5.55
UK Eq Gwth Inc	68.21	72.77†	+ 0.28	3.00
-do- Accum	92.56	98.75†	+ 0.35	3.00
Intl Income	305.20	324.57†	+ 0.88	1.42
-do- Accum	542.03	576.43†	+ 1.21	1.42
European	112.58	119.49†	+ 0.76	1.35
Japan	51.15	54.17†	.	0.19
American	106.94	113.07†	+ 1.05	1.17
Far East Tact	83.76	88.35	- 0.53	1.38
Ethical Inc	44.11	47.17†	- 0.02	1.56
UK Blue Chip Inc	43.65	46.86	+ 0.08	3.38
UK Equity Inc	45.93	48.99†	+ 0.14	4.17
UK Global Inc	50.75	54.03	+ 0.14	1.86
Wwde Tact	87.31	92.83†	+ 0.20	1.01
Europe Tactical	78.26	83.30	+ 0.34	0.98
Technology	151.49	161.08†	+ 0.86	0.71
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	537.90	573.60	+ 1.70	2.89
American	365.50	387.40	+ 2.90	0.29
Pacific	370.40	396.70	- 1.70	0.29
European	722.70	772.90	+ 3.30	0.77
Worldwide	102.10	109.30	- 0.30	0.42
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	362.50	385.70	+ 0.70	1.87
-do- Accum	480.60	511.30	+ 1.00	1.87
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	308.00	327.70	- 1.40	1.20
-do- Accum	380.80	405.20	- 1.70	1.20
Select Opptnty Inc	94.43	101.00	+ 0.28	1.72
Income Plus Inc	92.10	97.98	+ 0.52	2.94
European Inc	474.30	504.20	+ 2.60	1.02
-do- Accum	546.70	581.10	+ 3.00	1.02
Far Eastern Inc	171.60	182.60	- 1.10	1.33
-do- Accum	199.60	212.40	- 1.30	1.33
Japanese Inc	49.94	53.13	+ 0.09	...
Nth American Inc	346.10	368.00	+ 3.90	0.44
-do- Accum	383.40	407.80	+ 4.40	0.44
Intl Growth Inc	230.80	245.60	+ 0.60	0.86
Wwide Venture Inc	98.41	104.70	+ 0.20	0.59
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	485.50	513.09	+ 1.40	2.33
-do- Accum	752.00	794.50	+ 2.10	2.33
UK High Inc	236.80	250.20	+ 1.10	2.25

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	370.80	391.80	+ 1.80	2.25
Europe Inc	512.20	541.10	- 0.30	0.63
Nth Amer Inc	329.90	348.60	+ 1.40	0.14
Global Inc	257.70	272.30	- 0.30	...
Global Acc	278.80	294.60	- 0.30	
UK Spec Sits Inc	147.50	155.90	+ 0.20	1.67
South East Asia	211.00	222.90	- 2.40	0.32
Cash Trust Inc	101.80	101.80	...	5.35
UK Smlr Cos Inc	132.70	140.20	- 0.20	1.62
-do- Accum	140.40	148.40	- 0.20	1.62
Intl Bond Inc	88.05	92.60	- 0.10	4.91
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	173.10	182.20		0.78
Nth American	144.40	152.00	+ 1.00	
Intl Bond & Curr	129.10	135.90	+ 0.10	6.54
Pooled Pension (E)	251.80	270.80	+ 1.00	2.00
Smaller Cos	126.70	133.40	+ 0.30	0.75
UK General #	183.70	193.40	+ 1.10	2.03
Far Eastern	85.09	89.49	- 0.11	.
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 6235				
Continental	96.94	102.30	- 0.20	0.94
Global Gwth	81.96	86.86	- 0.08	1.18
Inv Tst Port	60.66	64.42	+ 0.02	2.39
Managed	£13.92	£14.59	..	1.59
Pref Inc #	108.60	115.50†	- 0.20	3.88
Smaller Cos	299.70	318.80	- 1.20	0.65
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	108.50			4.63
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.43			5.28
Corporate Inc ‡	101.25		...	5.30
Tai Pan ‡	112.38			
Aztec ‡	77.79			..
Amer Gth Fund ‡	136.02			...
European ‡	173.13			
Global Bond ‡	85.03			7.29
Samurai ‡	48.22			...
UK Growth ‡	114.14			2.71
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	108.59			2.94
Investment Trust ‡	115.46			2.34
The Football Fd ‡	94.73		..	.
Reserve Gilt Up ‡	97.01			.
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	392.20	416.00	- 5.10	..
Capital	155.30	164.30	+ 0.20	1.27
Cash	100.45	100.45†	+ 0.03	5.42
European	174.50	184.50	- 0.80	0.47
Far Eastern	154.10	163.00	- 0.60	.
Growth	181.90	192.40	- 0.20	1.20
Income #	147.00	155.60	- 0.70	4.78
Magnum	164.10	173.60	+ 0.20	1.25
Smlr Secs	626.50	662.90†	- 1.70	0.14
Thoroughbred	190.30	201.30†	+ 0.10	1.14
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 435000				
Capital Primrose	59.15	63.44	+ 0.19	7.00
Ethical	88.19	95.30†	+ 0.29	0.64
European Growth	86.62	91.85	+ 0.44	.
Income	67.51	72.30	+ 0.14	3.20
Intl Growth	109.90	116.40	+ 0.30	0.08
Managed	96.24	102.00	+ 0.30	0.25
UK Growth	84.76	90.65	+ 0.09	1.30
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 33 33 63				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	48.68	48.93		1.11
Global Advtg Acc	53.22	53.49		1.11
Income Advtg Inc	39.87	40.07†	+ 0.30	3.59
Income Advtg Acc	47.13	47.37	+ 0.20	3.59
UK Equity Gth Acc	112.50	119.30	- 0.10	1.41
Premier Inc Inc	49.42	51.15†	+ 0.10	7.35
Premier Inc Acc	54.49	56.40	+ 0.10	7.35
Managed Acc	67.93	72.01	- 0.10	1.26
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	44.83	47.52†	+ 0.20	4.21
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	60.76	64.41	+ 0.30	4.21
UK Smlr Cos Acc	50.82	53.87	+ 0.10	0.21
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	87.55	93.03	+ 0.40	1.78
UK Equity Gen Inc	62.22	66.11†	+ 0.30	1.78
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	31.46	33.27†	+ 0.10	6.78
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	361.00	391.70	- 0.50	1.59
Nth American Acc	61.12	64.94	+ 0.50	0.01
Pacific Basin	43.15	46.85	- 0.50	0.53
European Acc	62.88	66.82	- 0.50	0.17
Japan Acc	22.38	23.78	- 0.10	0.01
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZ$)	4.769	5.065†	...	1.83
US Eqts (US$)	3.804	4.033	..	0.74
Far East Eqts (yen)	258.20	274.30	.	.
FT Europe	168.20	178.70	.	1.10
FT N Amer (US$)	2.885	3.057	.	...
FT Japan (yen)	185.30	195.80	.	
FT Asia ExJap (US$)	2.936	3.119		0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	485.10	513.70	+ 1.40	.
British #	1381.10	1461.20	+ 3.00	2.56
Emerging Mkts	187.10	199.30	+ 0.10	0.42
Euro Small Co	64.45	68.65	+ 0.01	0.58
Japan	104.30	110.60	+ 0.20	.
New Pacific	433.80	463.00	+ 3.30	1.13
-do- Accum	465.80	498.20	+ 3.60	1.13
Inv Trust Acc	315.10	334.00	- 0.10	1.15
Mngd Equity	213.50	225.90	+ 0.10	1.95
Mngd Cash	95.72	95.72	+ 0.01	5.46
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 369				
Equity	1177.00	1258.00	+ 5.00	1.74
North America	191.70	204.80	+ 0.70	.
Far East	154.40	165.10	- 1.40	
Wwide Bond	55.07	58.43†	+ 0.03	5.70
European	160.90	172.00	+ 0.10	0.19
Equity Income #	122.00	130.40	+ 0.90	4.43
Portfolio	119.20	127.40†	+ 0.30	1.20
UK Leading Cos	88.60	94.60	+ 0.33	2.18
High Inc Bond	50.75	50.83	+ 0.06	6.61
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	78.97	84.45	- 0.36	.
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
Actares UT	22.92	24.39	- 0.16	0.75
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	96.98	103.18†	+ 0.14	6.96
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	104.31	110.97	+ 0.15	6.96
European	56.82	58.39	+ 0.03	0.46
High Income	37.80	40.22†	+ 0.19	3.62
Japan	29.56	31.45	+ 0.06	0.01
Managed Assets	151.41	161.94	+ 0.27	2.54
North American	48.43	51.53	+ 0.36	0.25
Smlr Co's Inc	39.64	42.18		1.90
Smlr Co's Acc	43.55	46.34	.	1.90
UK Growth Inc	70.60	75.11	+ 0.28	2.19
UK Growth Acc	80.67	85.82	+ 0.30	2.19
UK Income	50.00	53.48	+ 0.32	2.94
Worldwide Gth	42.90	45.89	+ 0.06	0.18
SLC Pensions Funds				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	31.36	32.34†	- 0.25	1.44
European Exempt	108.91	112.28	+ 0.22	1.20
Japan Exempt	25.66	26.46	+ 0.05	0.06
US Exempt	99.03	102.10†	+ 0.51	1.34
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	59.16	62.94	- 0.23	.
Cap Protector Inc	53.61	57.03†	+ 0.86	2.76
UK Income Inc	68.17	72.52	+ 0.72	3.18
Mngd Extd Inc Inc #	36.48	38.61†	+ 0.21	6.69
Mngd High Yld Inc	100.65	107.07	+ 0.83	4.39
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	97.44	103.66	+ 0.79	3.27
UK Smaller Cos	45.22	48.11	+ 0.81	1.07
Pacific Gwth Port	50.07	53.27	- 0.35	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	316.31	336.83	+ 2.43	
-do- Accum	350.60	371.00	+ 2.68	
Brit Growth	131.91	139.59†	+ 0.67	1.63
-do- Accum	166.20	175.87†	+ 0.84	1.63
European	137.70	145.72	- 0.09	0.01
-do- Accum	147.08	155.64	- 0.11	0.01
Extra Income #	227.48	240.72	+ 1.14	4.56
-do- Accum #	425.04	449.78	+ 2.12	4.56
Smaller Cos	97.60	103.28	- 0.05	0.75
-do- Accum	112.17	118.70	- 0.05	0.75
General	388.28	410.88	+ 2.02	1.80
-do- Accum	836.91	885.62	+ 4.34	1.80
Premier Income	51.22	53.35†	+ 0.11	6.69
-do- Accum	132.82	138.35†	+ 0.27	6.69
Income #	414.68	438.81	+ 2.75	3.54
-do- Accum #	974.38	£10.31	+ 6.45	3.54
Pacific	374.73	398.54	- 3.50	0.51
-do- Accum	393.74	416.66	- 3.69	0.51
International	638.76	675.93†	+ 0.90	0.14
-do- Accum	844.17	893.30†	+ 1.19	0.14
Nat Resources	165.21	174.82†	- 0.79	0.52
Sectl Opps	140.59	148.78†	+ 0.79	0.92
-do- Accum	186.03	196.86†	+ 1.03	0.92
Environmental Inv	90.42	95.68	- 0.91	0.76
Selector	80.14	84.80†	+ 0.29	1.43
-do- Accum	94.14	99.62†	+ 0.35	1.43
High Income #	75.26	79.64	+ 0.32	4.48
-do- Accum #	104.43	110.51	+ 0.44	4.48
Intl Income	61.58	65.17†	+ 0.03	4.67
-do- Accum	83.68	88.56†	+ 0.04	4.67
Selector Income	69.67	73.73†	+ 0.27	4.32
-do- Accum	90.14	95.38†	+ 0.34	4.32
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 687 1018				
British	453.04	476.89	+ 2.32	2.40
European	83.94	87.90	- 0.10	1.28
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	252.41	267.10	+ 0.38	2.37
Glob Balncd Inc	204.63	216.54†	+ 0.95	3.47
Value Tst Inc	158.07	167.27	+ 0.27	2.28
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Quadrant Em Bd	38.16	40.73	+ 0.02	6.50
European Growth	365.78	382.88†	+ 2.13	0.80
Exempt	732.65	765.39†	+ 2.92	3.00
Global Em Mkts	91.04	95.32†	- 1.24	0.50
Japan Tst	68.78	72.02†	+ 0.13	
Little Dragons	115.34	120.76†	- 0.07	
Nth Amer Gwth	326.20	341.57	+ 2.36	0.50
Oriental Income #	47.58	49.82†	- 0.15	3.70
Preference	131.31	137.49†	+ 0.14	6.70
Tiger	289.35	302.96†	- 3.69	.
UK Blue Chip	87.36	91.47	+ 0.32	1.60
UK Growth	734.96	769.50	+ 2.12	0.90
UK High Yield #	128.33	134.37†	+ 1.02	5.10
UK Mid-Cap	356.06	372.83†	+ 0.29	1.80
UK Smlr Cos	147.99	154.95	- 0.44	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Dir #	98.30	102.82	- 0.30	5.40
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 386				
UK Equity Income #	126.58	134.66	+ 0.45	4.64
UK Equity Growth	113.72	120.98†	+ 0.38	2.64
European	82.55	87.82	+ 0.12	1.25
Nth American	88.38	94.02	+ 0.54	0.12
Far Eastern	74.24	78.98†	- 0.42	0.72
Money	73.28	73.28	+ 0.01	4.74
Fixed Interest #	81.78	87.01	+ 0.04	7.87
Index Linked Gilt	74.10	78.83†	+ 0.19	1.22
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD 0345 959595				
Income Trust	104.01	104.01†	+ 0.49	6.85
Pens Growth	110.81	110.81		.
Pens Inc Protd	102.82	102.82	..	.
UK Index Tracking @	143.84	143.84†	+ 1.09	2.60
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 837 7455				
Australasian Gold	26.71	28.12	- 0.37	.
Pacific Basin	41.31	43.48	+ 1.27	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.8991	0.9368	+ 0.0013	...
Penny Share	48.63	51.19	- 0.31	
Japan Smlr Cos	32.59	34.30†	- 0.06	.
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 623 2444				
Challenger	88.55	92.48	- 0.17	
Short Dtd Gilt	126.60	128.20†	...	...
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7958	0.8041	+ 0.01	..
Gilt Income	51.62	52.43†	+ 0.05	6.20
Gilt Growth	79.21	80.44	- 0.18	..
Sterling Bond	49.36	50.20	+ 0.15	6.70
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mngd	59.27	62.92	+ 0.18	1.80
UK Stockmarket	112.90	120.00	+ 1.00	2.96
Corporate Bd Inc	46.88	48.90	+ 0.11	6.51
Do Accum	51.74	51.85	+ 0.11	6.51

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

Equities sharply higher at close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq	435	+ ½	6.8	13.1
626	542½	Bulmer (HP)	542½	− 2½	3.1	16.1
75½	57½	Burn Stewart	60	..	7.1	14.9
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	955	..	1.6	28.0
516½	425½	Grand Met	513	+ 3	3.9	16.6
520	424	Guinness†	515	+ 2½	3.9	14.7
380	327½	Highland Dist	327½	− 2½	3.2	15.2
336	257	Matthew Clark	279	− 7	10.8	13.7
109½	90½	Merrydown W	90½		6.4	12.2
1978½	1462½	SA Breweries	1793¼	.	1.9	...

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4706¼	3671¼	ABN-AMRO	4218¾	+ 40¾	2.7	17.7
854	710	Abbey Natl	851½	+ 25½	3.8	15.1
576	532½	Alliance & Leic	574	+ 15	3.5	14.1
455½	388½	Allied Irish	438½	+ 2½	4.1	.
409½	363½	Aus New Z	386½	.	4.9	...
7678¾	5753¾	Bank America	6790¾	+ 175	.	
376½	291½	Bank Scotland	376	+ 16	2.8	11.5
1226	978½	Barclays†	1161½	+ 45	3.4	11.7
651	517½	Bk of Ireland	650	+ 7½	3.2	14.7
7890¾	6006¼	Citicorp	6575	+ 168¾		.
1731¼	1268¾	Commerzbk	1646¼	− 9¾	2.6	
862½	569¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	646½	− 6½	0.6	
3490¾	2709¾	Deutsche Bk	3190¾	+ 3¼	2.0	
1031¼	759¾	Espirito Santo	959¾		3.5	13.5
872½	584½	Fuji Bank Y	658	− 4	0.6	.
1622	1272½	HSBC†	1613	+ 36	3.2	14.0
1563½	1241	HSBC HK†	1550¾	+ 33½	3.3	13.4
605	483½	Irish Perm†	580	+ 6½	2.8	..
582½	424	Lloyds TSB†	575	− 1	2.9	18.6
833½	669½	Nat Aust Bk	833½	+ 7½	4.9	11.2
844½	663½	Nat West†	751	+ 32½	4.8	11.3
632½	508	Roy Bk Scot	582	+ 10	4.0	12.9

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
465½	387½	Electrocomps	400	+ ½	2.2	24.2
228½	130½	Eurodis Elec	134½	+ 3	4.6	19.2
97½	76½	European Mtr	94½	− ½	7.0	9.6
283	220	Evans Halshaw†	234	.	8.8	..
53½	40½	Fife Indmart	41½	...	9.9	6.3
397½	322½	Finelist Grp	347½	− 2½	2.1	17.6
34½	26½	Gardner	29½		4.2	10.9
79½	57½	Glenchewton†	66½	− ½	2.5	13.0
110	82½	Gowrings†	106½		3.5	24.2
103	82	Hamlet†	96½	..	7.9	6.9
267½	239½	Harris (Philip)	242½		4.5	14.8
320½	284½	Headlam	312½	+ 7½	2.4	
155	145	Holders Tech†	147½	..	5.5	...
240½	209	ISA Intl	235½		1.5	18.9
285	240½	Inchcape†	274	+ 2	4.6	16.6
72	49½	Jacks (Wm)	62½		4.6	
246½	214½	Nelli-Fitt	240	+ ½	2.9	17.2
367	316½	Lex Service	357½	+ 4	5.6	11.8
122	102	Lookers†	104½	...	9.6	7.0
15½	11	Malaya Grp†	14½	.	5.8	12.9
9	5½	Middlesex	8½	+ ½	1.1	13.4
41½	31½	Moorstates†	32	.	1.9	..
472	228	Nortain	229		4.4	6.3
166½	131½	Northumber	159		1.1	9.5
352½	305½	Parton▼	339½	− 3	3.0	17.2
404½	342½	Pendragon†	362½	.	3.4	16.7
223½	190½	Perry Gp	204	− 1	5.7	...
751	455	Premier Farnell†	475½	− 7	3.2	17.8
152½	124½	Quicks Group†	133½	..	6.6	
348	307½	REA	320		1.6	38.9
2½	2	Reece	2	.	.	23.3
28	18½	Ronson	20½		9.1	7.1
4	2½	Ross Gp	3½	.	.	
109½	78½	Ryland	95½	+ 2	5.3	17.1
38	25½	SEP Ind	37½	.	8.0	7.3
92½	55	Salfire	65	− ½	2.4	..
415½	377½	Time Products	386	.	3.6	15.8
297½	226	UMECO	297½		2.0	21.3
70½	59	United Detail Gp	70½	+ 1½		15.3
352½	292½	Vardy (Regd)	332½		2.6	14.6
650	498½	WF Elect	625	+ 1½	2.7	22.7
41	31½	Wilshaw	32	− 1½	3.3	9.5

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
47½	30	Simon Eng	45	... ½	4.3	2.7
227½	119½	Six Hundred	139½	+ ½	4.3	2.7
832½	742½	Smiths Inds†	752½	− 5	2.8	18.3
737½	638½	Spirax-Sarco†	711½	− 17	2.6	18.7
303½	271½	Sterling Ind	272½	− 1	4.1	13.7
594½	515	TI†	525	+ 4	3.5	17.5
113½	101½	Tinsley (E)	113½		6.5	11.8
120½	102½	Transtec	109½	− 3	2.7	...
206½	175½	Triplex Lloyd	175½	.	5.6	9.9
167½	150½	Unicorn Intl	162½	.	4.9	9.6
77½	48½	Utd Inds	73½	− 1	4.2	20.8
273½	199½	Vickers†	215	+ 4½	4.2	12.8
18½	8½	Villiers Grp	9½	.	.	
712½	615	Vitec	636	...	2.4	11.4
962	863	Vosper Thorny	864	.	3.5	14.5
350	277	Wagon Ind	280	.	6.8	8.6
263½	203½	Weir†	235	.	4.3	13.5
259½	230	Wellington Hdgs†	232½	.	4.4	13.7
33	24	Wellman	26½	− ½	8.4	5.9
61½	45½	Wescott	47½	− 1½	2.9	15.8
630	525	Whatman†	626½	.	2.6	19.0
65½	37½	Widney	39½	.	11.1	11.9

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
94	79	Edin Dragon	80½	...	..	
30	24	Edinburgh Inca	29	...		
372½	343½	Edinburgh IT	369½	+ 3½	3.5	32.0
119	102½	Edin Japan	116½	+ 1½		
502	420½	Electra Inv	463		2.3	43.3
267½	86½	English Nat	205	− 3½	0.2	
156½	144½	Eng & Scot	148½		2.5	38.7
405½	372½	European Asset†	373		1.4	.
108½	90½	Fidelity Asian Val	94½			...
259½	216½	Fidlty Euro Valt	248½	+ 1½	0.2	
47½	36	Fidlty Jap Val	40½	+ ¼	0.3	
136½	126	Fidlty Spec Val	130½	.	0.5	
226½	205½	Finsbury 'A'	208½	.	2.3	46.9
197½	162½	Fire Air Chile	196½	+ ½	1.8	58.4
28½	21½	Fire Air Wts	23½	− ¼		
458½	375½	Fleming Amer	422½	+ 7½	0.8	.
83	66	Fleming Chinese	82½	+ 1½	0.8	.
31	24½	Fleming Ch Wts	30½	+ ½	...	
326½	280½	Fleming Claver†	322½	+ 3	2.5	42.1
437	381	Fleming Contl	413½	+ ½	1.2	..
142½	113	Fleming Ent Mkts	134½	+ ¼	0.2	..
253	227½	Fleming Entp	239	..	2.8	30.3
283½	253½	Fleming F East	261½	.	0.6	
429½	398	Fleming Fledg	399	..	0.6	...
110½	103½	Fleming Ing Inc	105	+ ¼	11.3	10.9
178	117	Fleming Ing Cap	158	..	.	

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
220½	163½	Murray S/C Cap	202½	+ 2		
73½	65½	Murray S/C Inc	66½		23.0	5.1
3750	3150	Murray S/C Uts	3700		4.0	..
485½	418	Murray Small	442½	− ½	1.4	65.4
402½	387	Murray Ventr	390½	− ½	4.8	21.8
5½	5½	Newmarket	5½	...		
407½	353½	O'seas Inv Tst	396	+ 4	1.2	.
210½	156½	O'seas Wts	198½	+ 2	...	...
136	102½	Pacific Assets†	102½	− 1½	0.5	.
109½	98	Perp Inc Gth	104	..	2.1	
54½	41	Perpetual Jap	45	+ ½		
366½	316½	Perpt Uk Sm Cot	325	− ½	3.7	29.1
£141½	£128½	Personal Assets	£140½	+ 50	2.0	48.5
128½	109½	Pilot Inv	120	+ ¼	2.2	46.9
134½	113½	Prolific Inct	119½	+ ¼	4.9	27.4
251½	229	RIT Cap Ptnr	241	+ ½	0.9	...
542½	475½	Robeco	503½	− 1½	2.2	
551½	497	Rolinco	519½	− 1½	1.2	..
108½	89½	Schrod Asia Pac	89½	− ½	0.3	
95½	79	Schrod Emg Cot	85			
136	117½	Schrod Inc Gwth†	131½	+ ½	3.8	35.0
62	51	Schrod Jap Gwth	61½	+ 1½	.	
512½	410	Schrod Nona	452	− 2½		.
39	19½	Schrod Splt Cap	26	..		
115½	105	Schrod Splt Inc	107½		9.6	13.1
146½	142½	Schrod Splt Zero	145½	+ ½		

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
43½	35½	INVESCO Tokyo	41½	+ ½		
94½	80½	J Fry 2nd U	93	..	9.8	12.6
96½	82½	J Fry Euro U	96½	+ 4	5.7	15.5
162½	119	JF Fledg Jap	136	+ 3½	..	
108½	92½	Jupiter Eu Inc	101	.	9.9	9.8
14½	3½	Jupiter Ex IncWt	9½	..	.	
88	76½	Jupiter Gnl Cap	80½	.	12.1	10.3
36½	31	Jupiter Gnl Pfd	35½	+ ½	.	.
135½	120½	Jupiter Intl Gm	125½		3.9	..
339½	293	Klnwt Chrl	329	+ ½	2.2	49.1
116½	98½	Klnwt E Mkt	110	− ½		.
170½	153½	Klnwt End	160½			
98	74	Klnwt H Inc	89½	+ ½	13.8	9.5
308½	261	Klnwt O'seas	291½	+ 2	1.6	55.9
188½	171	Klnwt Smlr†	183½	.	2.5	49.0
367	264½	Korea—Euro	294½	− 7½	0.4	.
134½	98½	Latin American	129½	− ½		
967	902½	Law Debenture†	946	+ 3½	3.3	28.7
115	103½	Lille OR Opp	106	.		
133	122½	Lloyds Sm Cap	130½	.	.	..
25½	20½	Lloyds Sm Dirt	21½	..	23.6	5.4
158½	145	Lloyds Sm Plgt	152½		3.4	.
168½	159½	Lon St Lawrence†	161½	+ 1	4.8	25.9
325½	295	Lowland	314½	− 1½	4.6	24.1
700	635	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	700		.	.

LEISURE & HOTELS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
28	23½	Kunick	23½		3.7	15.6
246	217½	Ladbroke†	233	+ 2	3.3	25.6
419	298½	London Clubs	387½		2.5	25.6
231	183½	Macdonalds Htls	184½		2.1	20.1
733½	628	Man Utd†	662	+ 3	1.0	30.2
91	69½	Mandarin Orntl†	70½	.	5.5	.
412½	347½	Millennium & Cop	376	.	1.6	15.9
263½	191½	Northern	250	− 6½	2.7	22.0
188½	117½	Prism Leisure	158½	.	4.8	8.6
38	29½	Queensborough†	32		1.2	12.5
18½	12½	Queens Moat	13½			9.2
454½	409	Rank Grp	431½	+ 1½	4.9	34.3
46½	40½	Ryan Hotels IC	43	+ ½	5.0	8.7
1475	1405	Savoy Hotel 'A'†	1417½		1.5	.
280½	184½	Sinclair (Wm)†	244½	− 3	4.2	14.0
153½	47	Southampton	90	− 2½	1.4	
110½	95	Stakis	95½	− ½	2.8	15.8
320	249½	Stanley Leisure	278½		1.6	27.7
11	6	Tandem	6½	− ½	.	
346	346	Tanjong	346	.	1.4	22.9
210	168½	Thistle Hotels†	168½	− ½	2.7	16.5
142	101½	Tottenham Hot	107½	+ ½	0.8	18.4
115½	93½	Toy OpOpus	110	− ½	4.0	8.9
280½	234½	VCH	262½	− 2½	3.7	
127½	94	Ventour†	125	+ ½	1.9	17.9

MEDIA

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
528	425	Bristol	500	− 5	3.6	23.2
142½	117½	Brit Aircraft	135½	...	1.5	23.1
666½	515	BSkyB	575½	− 1½	1.2	37.9
170½	120½	CIA Gp†	157½	− 1½	1.9	
590	516½	Capital Radio	534	+ 2	2.8	18.3
577½	483	Carlton Comms	510½	− 7	2.7	16.1
812½	512½	Chrysalis	710		0.5	
82½	69	City of Lon	78½		8.3	10.5
140	97½	Cordiant	130	− ½	1.0	..
1750	1431½	Daily Mail	1726½		1.4	28.4
1640½	1331½	Daily Mail 'A'	1575	− 3½	1.5	25.9
430	245	Dorling Kindt	297½	..	1.9	25.1
831½	734	EMAP	762½		1.9	26.3
1410	1085½	EMI	1244	+ 25	2.8	30.5
1052½	913½	Elsevier	974	− 2½	2.5	..
1450	1400	Euromoney Pb	1425	.	4.0	19.9
49	37	Flicht	43½	..	1.1	12.1
803½	596	Flextech	625	+ 18	.	

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1430	1125	Henderson	1282½	− 2½	4.4	19.3
96	94½	Investment Co	95½	.	2.6	.
257½	215½	Ivory Sime	219	..	4.9	15.0
228	197½	Jardine Strat▼	209	+ ½	4.3	.
144½	112½	Johnson Fry†	136½	− 2½	3.7	.
495	465	Leopold J	490		6.0	29.0
503½	423½	Liberty Intl†	466	+ 1	4.3	28.9
437½	299½	Lon Forfaiting	402½	− 3	3.5	14.9
229½	209½	London Pacific	214	...	8.4	7.7
111½	94½	Lon Scot Bk	100		3.7	17.5
200½	170½	Man ED & F	179½		7.2	9.6
1467½	1097½	M & G	1297½	+ 10	3.5	21.9
1438½	1172½	MAM	1330	+ 23½	3.7	22.3
178½	113½	Paragon	148		2.1	7.1
2785	2280	Perpetual	2620	+ 32½	2.7	19.4
612½	500	Provident	569½	+ ½	3.6	19.4
337	303	Rathbone Brst	315		4.6	12.7
60½	47½	Rea Brothers†	47½	.	2.6	19.0

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
232½	213½	GGT Group	232½		3.2	16.3
232½	187½	GWR Gp	199½	− ½	1.6	34.6
387½	300½	Gearhorse Group	363½	− 5½	2.1	18.1
34½	29½	Goodhead	31½		1.0	19.2
291½	243½	Grampian	265	+ 1½	3.5	
372½	277½	HTV Group†	311	.	1.7	37.4
287½	232½	Haynes Publ	242½		5.5	11.1
22½	17½	Highbury Hse	18			..
230	210	Hodder H'line†	211	− ½	3.9	19.9
265	243	Home Counts†	253½	.	2.7	53.9
387½	295	IBC†	367½		3.2	13.2
26½	20½	Incepta	22½	+ ½		15.1
332½	297½	Independent†	322½		2.4	.
145	95	Infocus/Spel†	132		3.9	10.4
208½	184½	Johnston Press†	201½	− ½	1.5	22.9
38½	25	Lopert	38	..	2.5	
247½	140	MAID	235		..	
327½	282½	Maiden†	315½		1.4	21.7
36½	36½	Mediakey†	36	− 1	3.9	12.1
1265	1005	Metal Bulletin	1055	...	2.4	30.7
157½	129½	Midland Indt†	142		3.3	27.0
228½	199	Mirror Gp†	212		2.7	15.1
705	615	More Grp†	638	− 6	2.9	15.5
338½	273½	News Corp	283½	− 1½	0.5	7.3
288	229½	News Corp Prel	233½	+ 1	1.5	
47½	27½	On Demand Inf	34½			

PHARMACEUTICALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
264½	192	Brit Biotech	242½	− 4½	.	..
1115	865	Cantab Pharms	982½	− 5		
673	470	Celltech	565	− 2½		
443½	312½	Chiroscience	327½	+ 2½	..	..
293½	177½	Cortecs	267½	− 2		
1189	885½	Glaxo Wellt	1188	+ 29½	3.5	24.5
245	176½	ML Laboratories	197½	+ ½		51.7
330½	252	Medeva†	299	+ ¼	2.0	
403	228½	Peptide Thera	317			
92	24½	Proteus Intl	67½	+ 7½	..	
737½	362½	Scotia	422½	+ 1½	.	
246	216	Shire Pharms	219	..		
86½	64½	SkyePharma	78½			
972	768½	SmithKlineB†	971½	+ 20	2.1	24.3
392	299½	Therp Antib Inc	358½	...		
707½	512½	Vanguard	600	− 2½		
435	210	Xenova	380			
1930	1585½	Zeneca†	1862½	+ 35	2.3	36.4

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
64½	54½	Rutland Tst	58½		3.0	14.9
144	99½	SEC Group	142	+ 5	4.2	12.7
416	375	S & U	387½	+ 7½	6.0	.
1792½	1500	Schroders†	1577½	+ 10	1.6	17.2
1577½	1310	Schroders N/V†	1577½	+ 15	1.9	15.0
547½	522½	Secure Tst†	547½	+ 7½	4.6	12.4
162½	127½	Singer & Friedl†	137	..	4.2	11.7
45½	37½	Towry Law	38½			
2	2½	Trio Hldgs	2			
106½	71	Union	77½		2.4	
342½	310	Wintrust	330	.	4.9	15.5

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
200½	136½	MFI	137½	+ 1½	4.2	13.3
510½	458½	Marks Spencer	493	− 2½	3.0	19.4
545	445	Menzies (John)	461	+ 1	3.7	12.8
26½	22½	Merchant Retail	23	..		27.2
1425	1155	Moss Bros†	1375	...	2.2	...
663	523½	Next	644½	− 5	3.0	20.6
41½	29½	Oliver (G)	39½	...		
535	467	Oriflame Intl	474½		3.3	14.6
74½	69½	Partridge Fine	72½		5.3	14.1
40½	28½	QS Hldgs	31			
337½	298	Ratners†	299½	− ½	3.3	16.3
95½	71½	Scats	77½	.	6.6	60.8
36½	28½	Signet Group	32½	.		
484	423	Smith WH	450	+ 4	4.3	..
1110	927½	Sothebys	965	+ 5	2.5	
305½	223½	Storehouse	224	− 4	4.2	14.9
150	107	Stylo	113½	.	6.6	.
202½	175½	T & S Stores†	185½	..	5.2	11.0
398½	154	Thorn	169½	+ 1½	9.8	13.1
203½	186½	Tie Rack	194½	− 1	2.2	
4	3	Upton & South	4		...	18.9
543½	481½	Vendome	512½		2.5	19.0
26	16½	WEW Group	17	+ ½	.	14.2
417½	132½	Wickes	163	+ 1½		
128½	76½	Wld of Leather	128½	.	1.9	27.1
313½	232½	Wyevale	305½	− 1	2.5	22.0

SUPPORT SERVICES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1670	1300	ADT	1617½			
525	395	AEA Tech	488½		1.9	22.6
114	97	Alpha Airpts	108½	+ ½	6.2	.
45½	34½	Alphameric	43½	− 1		17.0
397½	292½	Allied WS	313½	+ 1	2.6	22.8
188½	152½	BNB Rest	154½		6.1	7.5
457½	394½	BPP†	442½	+ 2½	3.7	19.3
182½	95	BSM†	111½	+ 8	8.5	8.3
699	416	BTG	641½	+ 1½	0.8	...
99½	69½	Brooks Service†	87½		5.0	13.3
510	449	Business Post	455	+ 3½	2.6	23.2

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	84½	Abacus Recruit	102½		0.6	89.8
210½	170	Cale Ines	177½	...	1.7	13.7
209½	153½	County Gdns	205½		1.0	.
282½	215	Dawson Hdgs	232½	.	2.2	17.9
51½	37	Freepages	40½	+ ½	...	
93½	88½	Megalomedia	92½			51.9
65	33½	Memory Corp	40½	− 2	..	.
590	295	Prism Rail	330		.	.
1265	945	Ramco Eqy	982½	− 15	0.1	
783	618½	Southern News	751	− 1	3.8	24.3
70½	65½	Southern Vectis	70½	.	3.4	15.2
496	410	Surrey Fr Invest	450	...	0.7	31.1
60½	33½	Trocadero	39		.	.

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. . No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	[illegible]		6.98	6.18
101½	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	[illegible]	..	8.68	6.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	[illegible]	− ½	14.40	6.38
103½	102½	Exch 9¾% 1998	102½		9.54	6.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]	.	7.21	6.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	[illegible]		13.03	6.69
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	13.60	6.78
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.16	6.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.12	6.88
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.27	6.95
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]	+ ½	9.84	6.98
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	+ ½	6.11	6.92
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.55	7.05
106½	104½	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.60	7.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	+ ½	7.80	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	11.17	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.17	7.25
101½	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.07	7.25

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
122½	109½	Treas 9¾% 2002	110½	+ [illegible]	8.83	7.37
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.76	7.36
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.87	7.43
[illegible]	113½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	10.08	7.39
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	84	+ [illegible]	4.17	6.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.52	7.46
[illegible]	94½	Treas 6¾% 2004	[illegible]	+ ½	7.02	7.42
109½	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.01	7.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.51	7.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.94	7.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7½% 2006	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.53	7.55
107½	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	101½	+ [illegible]	7.67	7.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	101½	+ ½	7.89	7.54

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	9.81	7.43
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.00	7.59
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 2007	[illegible]	+ ½	7.41	7.55
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.16	7.63
[illegible]	101	Treas 8% 2009	102½	+ ½	7.80	7.67

LONGS (over 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
91½	[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.12	7.72
[illegible]	109½	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	+ ½	8.10	7.70
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.08	7.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.71	7.48
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.81	7.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.77	7.74
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.77	7.69
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	+ ½	7.94	7.74
[illegible]	[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	[illegible]	+ ½	7.74	7.69

UNDATED

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.82	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.01	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 4%	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	8.04	...

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 10% 5%

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	.	2.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	2.89	3.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	2.98	3.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.05	3.46
[illegible]	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.20	3.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	172½	+ [illegible]	3.30	3.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	+ ½	3.35	3.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.40	3.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]	+ ½	3.44	3.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.51	3.67
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	+ ½	3.53	3.67
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	+ [illegible]	3.52	3.67

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هكذا من الاعلى

■ FILM

Johnny Depp, brightest of the brat-pack stars, prepares to deromanticise the Mafia

■ CHOICE 1

Glen Tetley creates a new work for six of the Royal Ballet's leading dancers

VENUE: Tonight at the Royal Opera House

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 2

Penelope Keith returns to the stage in *Mrs Warren's Profession*

VENUE: Opens tonight in Guildford, before touring

■ CHOICE 3

Peter Whelan's new play, *Overture*, opens tonight in Stoke-on-Trent

VENUE: At the New Victoria Theatre

Hollywood just can't get a grip on Johnny Depp, the anti-star star. **Martyn Palmer** reports

Outsider on the A-list

By now Johnny Depp could, if he so desired, have turned himself into the conventional movie idol that so many in Hollywood want him to be. He could, for instance, have taken the lead in the huge box office success *Speed*, which made Keanu Reeves a star. Depp turned it down, as he rejected *Legends of the Fall* and *Interview With The Vampire*, major vehicles for Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise respectively.

Instead, the 33-year-old Depp has chosen his own path, preferring to devote his time to films often described as "quirky", usually well-received by the critics, displaying a formidable talent that has drawn accolades from actors of the stature of Marlon Brando and Al Pacino.

Depp's movies may have been slightly leftfield — such as *Cry Baby*, *Edward Scissorhands*, *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?* and *Ed Wood* — but they have never been anything less than interesting. And, if Depp is regarded as A-list in Tinseltown, then it's almost in spite of himself.

So, when the British director Mike Newell was casting for *Donnie Brasco*, the true story of an undercover FBI agent who infiltrated the mob for six years, he knew that Depp was the man to place alongside Pacino.

Johnny Depp in his new film, *Donnie Brasco*, as the real-life FBI agent who went underground against the mob

"Why did I choose Johnny and not someone like Keanu? Well, I wanted someone who could act, for a start," Newell says. "And Johnny is a very, very clever actor, make no mistake about that."

When you point this out to Depp, and add the fact that both Brando and Pacino have called him the best actor of his generation, he positively squirms with embarrassment. "I don't know why people like that say those things, but I mean, obviously, that's great," he stumbles. "I'm lucky to be able to say that they are friends of mine, but they are heroes too, you know? I have nothing but respect for them."

A lesser actor could have been chewed up and spat out by Pacino, but in *Donnie Brasco* it is a bit like watching the Method King passing his blessings to his heir apparent. "Working with Al was everything and a whole lot more than I expected," Depp says. "It was a real treat and an honour. I learnt as much as I could but it's difficult to pick out specifics. I expected him to be very serious and not very loose and playful, but he wasn't like that at all. He was constantly making jokes and making people laugh."

The film's central relationship is between Joe Pistone, the real-life undercover FBI agent who adopted the identity of Donnie Brasco, a small-time Florida jewel thief, and Lefty Ruggiero (Pacino), the lowly, embittered Mafia man who unwittingly vouches for him so that he gains access to the mob world.

Before starting filming, Depp spent months in preparation with Pistone, now 58 and retired from the FBI. Depp, Pistone says, was hardly what he expected. "All I knew about Johnny was what I'd read in the papers," he says. "You know, about him trashing hotel rooms and stuff. But we spent a lot of time together, we worked out together in the gym. I took him to the FBI academy in Virginia, and he wanted to know everything.

"He would even ring up my wife and ask questions. He kept saying, 'I want to make this right for you, you have to live with this film for the rest of your life and I want to do it justice'. And he did. He captured me to a T.

"He wouldn't even go to see a screening until I could go with him. Most actors wouldn't care, they would just take the money and run. He's a lovely guy."

In the film Pistone makes a close friend of Ruggiero, a man Pistone knows he must ultimately betray. "I spoke about that with Joe," says Depp. "He said that there is no way you can hang around with someone for six years solid and not feel something for them. On the one hand you can hate them and despise them, but on the other you sort of love the guy.

"But it's wrong to say that Joe was betraying them. If he had been a Mafia guy from the beginning and then turned on his friends and associates that would have been a betrayal. But the fact is that Joe came in as an FBI agent and he was just doing his job.

"He made an enormous sacrifice. He missed his children growing up, he faced the daily threat to his life, and he had to move his family constantly to protect them. He is maybe the strongest person I ever met in my life."

Donnie Brasco is, on the surface at least, Depp's most mainstream film since he crossed over from television — where he played a cop in the hit *21 Jump Street* — almost ten years ago. But it would be wrong to assume that he is now about to start accepting some of those blockbuster scripts that drop, unsolicited, on the doormat of the $3 million mansion he recently bought in the Hollywood Hills.

Instead, he is back in the editing suite finishing *The Brave*, a film which he co-wrote, directed and stars in alongside Brando. A dark, brooding story of a young man involved in a snuff movie, *The Brave* is hardly going to be mainstream.

> I was, still am, a musician. This other stuff just happened

"I've never seen a snuff movie and I didn't want to," he says. "So when I made the film I tried to skirt around the idea of what he was actually going to be doing. So it's never really mentioned, but the audience kind of wonders about it.

"*The Brave* was the most difficult thing I've ever done and I was an idiot to attempt it. It's way too much work for one person. You get up before anybody else and you go to bed later than anybody and when you are asleep you are dreaming about it. I don't know that I'll ever catch up on the sleep I lost."

Born in Kentucky, the youngest of three children, Depp moved to Los Angeles in his teens with the hope of carving out a career in music, his first love, and he started acting to pay the bills. Then came *21 Jump Street*, and he was suddenly splashed across the covers of teen magazines all over the world.

It is an image he has been trying to resist ever since. Indeed, he is more likely to make the covers of teen mags these days because of his girlfriend, the British model Kate Moss, and his friendship with rock stars such as Noel Gallagher of Oasis.

"It's strange," he says. "I never had much ambition. I never really wanted to be an actor and I never really wanted to be a director. I was a musician and I still am. This other stuff kind of happened."

● *Donnie Brasco opens on Friday*

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING: Neat psychological games and sly manoeuvring are promised in Joe Penhall's new play where an aspiring couple's lifestyle is threatened by a visitor's demands. Mike Bradwell directs. See interview, page 38
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens May 2, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

ROYAL BALLET: The company's latest mixed programme includes a new ballet by Glen Tetley, Balanchine's *Symphony in C* and Kenneth MacMillan's *The Judas Tree*.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then tomorrow, noon, Saturday, 7.30pm, May 10, 2pm and 7pm, May 14 and 15, 7.30pm. 🅂

SCHOOLGIRLS IN UNIFORM: A cast of 18 women play teachers and students in a stage version of Christa Winsloe's Expressionist classic, *Mädchen in Uniform*. Kellie Bright plays Manuela, Hildegard Neil her comforter. Sean O'Connor directs.
BAC Studio 1, Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Previews tonight, 7.30pm. Opens May 1, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

CHICHESTER: *Siri O'Neal mislays her incriminating accessory in Richard* Cottrell's revival of Lady **Windermere's Fan**. Stephanie *Beacham, David Rintoul and Googie* Withers also in a fine cast.
Festival, Oaklands Park (01243 781312). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens May 6, 7.30pm. In rep.

EDINBURGH: Scottish Opera stages its first production of Saint-Saëns's opera, **Samson and Delilah**, based on the Old Testament story. Directed and designed by Antony McDonald, and conducted by Frédéric Chaslin. Sung in French with English surtitles.
Festival, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000). Tonight, 7.15pm. Further performances on May 3 and 19, June 21, 7.15pm 🅂

GUILDFORD: Penelope Keith is a curious choice for the successful brothel-keeper in **Mrs Warren's Profession**, but you never can tell. Alan Strachan directs a nine-week tour.
Yvonne Arnaud, Millbrook (01483 440000). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.45pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until May 10. Next in Sheffield and Richmond.

STOKE-ON-TRENT: Peter Whelan *sets his new play, **Overture**, on the* outskirts of the Potteries, where a factory owner buys a neglected country house and tries to find content through beauty. Peter Cheeseman directs.
New Victoria, Etruria Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme (01782 717962). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Thurs *and Sat, 7.30pm; Fri, 8pm. Until May 24.*

STRATFORD: Siobhan Redmond and *Peter Wight play the doomed Hieronimo* and Bellimpera in the earliest Elizabethan revenge drama, Kyd's **The *Spanish Tragedy***. *Michael Boyd* directs this forerunner of *Hamlet*.
Swan (01789 295623). Previews from *tonight, 7.30pm*. Opens May 7, 7pm. Then in rep.

LONDON GALLERIES

Anthony d'Offay: Francesco Clemente — Fifty One Days on Mount Abu (0171-499 4100) . . . **Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design**: Colin Barnes — Illustrator (0171-514 7000) . . . **Goethe-Institut**: Lucia Moholy: Bauhaus Photographer (0171-411 3400) . . . **Lisson**: Christine Borland (0171-724 2739) . . . **National**: Discovering the Italian Baroque: The Denis Mahon Collection (0171-747 2885) . . . **Portal**: Reg Pepper: *Paintings of French Rural Life* (0171-493 0706) **Redfern**: Spring Exhibition: Modern and Contemporary Prints and Ceramics by Picasso (0171-734 1732) . . . **Saatchi**: Duane Hanson (0171-624 8299)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◩ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**: Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighton and *Alasdair Harvey as the leads, with* support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington. Unlike in the film, the *Beast* should stay the same size throughout.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens May 14, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN**: Set on a remote Irish isle, with excellent playing (Ruaidhri Conroy as the young cripple). Martin McDonagh's second play has its faults but is lively and sharply comic.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews tonight, 7.30pm. Then tomorrow-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.15pm. In rep. 🅂

◩ **EAST IS EAST**: Second West End showing for Ayub Khan-Din's enjoyable family drama, comic and serious, set in 1970s Salford where a Pakistani patriarch vainly tries to bring up his six children according to ancestral tradition.
Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-*565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat,* 3.30pm. Until May 24

◩ **THE FIX**: New American musical by John Dempsey and Dana P. Rowe, directed by Sam Mendes. John Barrowman plays *an ambitious political* candidate, and the excellent Kathryn Evans is his scheming mother.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). In preview. Opens May 12, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING *OSCAR***: *Micheál MacLiammóir's* celebrated tribute to Wilde movingly revived by Simon Callow, conveying the wit, the gravity, the distress.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **MASTER CLASS**: Patti LuPone recreates her Broadway starring role as Maria Callas in Terrence McNally's Tony-winning play where the great diva puts aspiring opera singers through their paces. Leonard Foglia directs.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 *(0171-494 5040). Now previewing*, 8pm. Opens May 6, 7pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◩ **POPCORN**: Ben Elton's blistering comedy about movie violence. A *Tarantinoesque director gets his come*-uppance when a couple of serial killers (great playing by Patrick O'Kane and Dena Davis) blame him for their misdeeds. Laurence Boswell directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE**: Subtitled "The Songs of Leiber and Stoller". Hit Broadway compilation show celebrating a successful songwriting *team, responsible for Hound Dog, Jailhouse Rock and Spanish Harlem.*
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

☐ ***THE UBU PLAYS**: First in a season* of European satire: John Wright directs a centenary production of Jarry's anarchic, prescient masterpiece. Kenneth McLeish translates the saga of monstrously vulgar and cruel King Ubu.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) . . . ◩ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) . . . ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) . . . ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) . . . ◩ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ◩ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) . . . ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) *on release across the country*

NEW RELEASES

COLD COMFORT FARM (PG): Ungainly cinema transfer for John *Schlesinger's TV version of the spoof* rural melodrama. With Kate Beckinsale and Eileen Atkins.
Barbican 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **Minema** (0171-235 4225) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

EDDIE (12): Whoopi Goldberg becomes a basketball coach. Yawn-inducing comedy. Director, Steve Rash.
Notting Hill Coronet 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U): Luke Skywalker battles Darth Vader yet again. Special edition of the 1983 *Star Wars* sequel, with Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, and Carrie Fisher.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 *6148)* ***Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315* 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE (PG): Mute servant girl meets a serial killer. Vintage thrills from 1945, with Dorothy McGuire. Director, Robert Siodmak.
NFT 🅂 (0171-928 3232)

VERTIGO (PG): Restored print of Hitchcock's hypnotic thriller, with James *Stewart and Kim Novak.*
Lumiere (0171-836 0691)

CURRENT

THE ADDICTION (18): Quirky and compelling vampire tale from Abel *Ferrara, with Lili Taylor.*
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **FEVER PITCH** (15): Football-crazed teacher falls in love. Appealing version of *Nick Hornby's book, with Colin Firth,* Ruth Gemmell. Director, David Evans.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **JERRY MAGUIRE** (15): A sports PR agent gets a conscience. Enjoyable, if overlong comedy, with Oscar-nominated Tom Cruise.
Empire (0990 888990) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 *(0171-434 0031)*

◆ **METRO** (18): Routine cop saga, with Eddie Murphy and Michael Rapaport.
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** *(0181-315 4216)* **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990)

◆ **THE PEOPLE VS LARRY FLYNT** (18): Rollercoaster ride through the life and court cases of the pornographer, played by Woody Harrelson.
***Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0181-315* 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) ***Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)* **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY** (12): Jane Campion's icily elegant adaptation of Henry James, with Nicole Kidman.
Virgin Haymarket (0171-839 1523)

◆ **THE SAINT** (12): *Botched revival of* Leslie Charteris's gentleman thief, played by Val Kilmer. With Elisabeth Shue. Director, Phillip Noyce.
Empire 🅂 (0990 888990) 🅂 **Odeon Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 *(0990 888990)*

◆ **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S *ROMEO + JULIET*** *(12): Effervescent* contemporary treatment, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as the star-crossed lovers. Director, Baz Luhrmann.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Mezzanine** 🅂 (0181-315 4215) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 *5096)* **Trocadero** 🅂 *(0171-434 0031)* **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

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■ THEATRE 1

All of life is here? Rising playwright Joe Penhall takes society's misfits as his subject

■ THEATRE 2

At the Tricycle *The Mai* proves to be a dour Irish drama about a family in turmoil

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ RISING STAR

Director, actor, composer: is there no area in which Neil Rutherford can't excel?

■ TOMORROW

How does Helena Bonham Carter measure up in her latest role? Read Geoff Brown on the new films

THEATRE: Why one of our best new playwrights is now writing about morality rather than murder. Plus review

Barking up a family tree

The Mai
Tricycle

Marina Carr's *Portia Coughlan*, which came last year from Dublin to the Royal Court, pulled us deep into the mind of a violent depressive, incestuously obsessed with her dead brother, in the process providing a marvellous role for Derbhle Crotty. Carr's *The Mai* draws us into the family whose tree is helpfully published in the programme, and, though it has its sharp moments, the result is more spread out and less intense. After all, trees are trees, and it can be hard to see the trunk for the leaves.

Mainly, the emphasis is on Mai, or the Mai as she is called. The play opens as her husband, Robert, returns to her lakehouse in central Ireland from a long, unexplained absence in America: when it ends, he is having an affair with a local woman. The problem is, Mai loves him and cannot bring herself to reject him. One of the play's points is that people find themselves deciding whether to put their spouses or their children first and, when they opt too strongly for the former, emotional disaster may ensue.

Myra Carter as 100-year-old Grandma Fraochlan in *The Mai*

The point is re-emphasised by the arrival of Myra Carter's Grandma Fraochlan, a 100-year-old exotic whose marbles and taste for opium are unhurt by time. She still mythologises her fisherman husband, and is still resented by her unloved, unlovable 75-year-old daughter.

The troubles extend to the next generation, mainly represented by Judith Scott's Mai, and even to the next. By the close Mai's daughter, Millie, has acquired an illegitimate son — and what, given his author's mistrust of families, will his fate be?

I'm not revealing vital secrets. For one thing, *The Mai* does not generate great tension, and for another, it is presented in the once unconventional, now conventional form of the Irish memory play. This means that Diane O'Kelly's Millie spends a lot of time silently witnessing intimate exchanges from the living-room sidelines, occasionally coming forward to fill us in on events that might have been more deftly evoked.

Still, Nicolas Kent's cast has its strengths. Carter's antique Grandma has a nice line in hoarse farmyard squawks, and Angela Crow, playing the most damaged of her brood, an equally good one in wintry looks and frosty remarks. Scott's Mai does not get the chances Derbhle Crotty had last year, but she bestirs her emotional stumps for a big, angry run-in with Robert Gwilym, playing her somewhat underwritten husband. For that scene, at least, you believe families are as destructive as Marina Carr suggests.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Fair to the middling

Wild cards may be sexier, but Joe Penhall's latest play is about hard workers. **Jeremy Kingston** met him

Joe Penhall's first play, called *Wild Turkey* and set in a pizza bar, was shown in 1993 at the New Play Festival at the Old Red Lion. A year later *Some Voices*, where the schizophrenic hero starts to see horrors while cooking an omelette, was staged at the Theatre Upstairs and lauded for just about everything: emotional truth, balanced treatment of combatants, razor-sharp, eloquent writing.

Then came *Pale Horse*, where the action was divided between a gangsterish South London club and Balham Common, where the club-owner found himself having to bury a murdered rival. Praised for its ability to create moods of rage and grief, the play came unstuck in the second half and was seen as an intriguing stage in Penhall's journey as a writer. His next play, the critics said, would be eagerly awaited, and here it is: *Love and Understanding*, starting previews today at the Bush Theatre.

Half the characters in *Some Voices* were finding difficulty adjusting to what the rest of society considered proper human behaviour. In *Pale Horse* a wild girl beats a customer to death with a baseball bat. So does *Love and Understanding* come from the same mould of violence and fear?

"My plays always seem to revolve around two characters, one a straight man and one the misfit," Penhall says. "In this play the misfit is Richie, who's left his job and gone off travelling. He gets lost in South America, and comes back with a taste for morphine to turn up on a schoolfriend's doorstep.

"This schoolfriend is now a doctor, very harassed, trying desperately to cling to his ideals, overworked, underpaid. Whereas Richie is very flippant and cynical and modern about everything. All he wants is to insinuate himself into his friend's house, take his money, seduce his girlfriend and get hold of drugs.

"On a superficial level a lot of people are going to identify with this rogue, because he's funny and he's charming. But obviously on a deeper level there's a personal morality. If you work hard all your life and subscribe to a set of ideals, which this doctor does, it shouldn't be laughed at.

"Everyone identifies with the wild cards at the moment. It's sexy, it's cool, it gets the headlines. And there's certainly the trend in films to write very brutal, flip, ironic, not particularly emotionally truthful material, which is astoundingly funny, but there's just so much of it. So this new play turns on a sixpence. Little things, which don't have to be boring things. Style things, questions of sensibility. In *Some Voices* and *Pale Horse* there were very big, macro things, baseball bats and murder and fire, things that are easy to grasp. But to write drama about a new shower curtain is more challenging."

In his jeans, black T-shirt and leather jacket, it is easy to picture the 28-year-old Penhall as he must have looked when he played in a rock'n'roll band ten years ago. "I think it's disrespectful to compartmentalise people in terms of *reactionary, wears a tie, goes to work* and *flip, louche, Byronic*. There are a lot of people in between, particularly my friends. They're cool, they're funny, they're charismatic, but they're also hardworking and moral. This middle ground isn't on show."

In the 1930s the documentary film-maker John Grierson wrote that behind all his films had been one idea: "That the ordinary affairs of people's lives are more dramatic and more vital than all the false excitements you can muster. If Penhall can succeed in showing the excitements of life in the middle ground, he will become a valuable playwright.

● Love and Understanding *previews from tonight at the Bush Theatre (0181-743 3388)*

ANDRE CAMARA

Joe Penhall: "My plays always seem to revolve around a straight man and a *misfit*"

Make it rich and snappy

ENFIELD-born pianist/composer Michael Garrick, shortly to celebrate his 64th birthday, is extraordinarily prolific. Since entering music in the late 1950s, he has produced suites on everything from the works of Tolkien and Hardy to the marital troubles of the Royal Family, as well as a series of "Jazz Portraits" of inspirational figures. He has also produced a number of larger, more ambitious pieces such as the choral work *Jazz Praises*, performed in St Paul's Cathedral in 1968.

At the beginning of this concert, Garrick bounded on to the stage exuding keenness and brisk efficiency. Leading a 16-piece big band from the piano, he plunged straight into a rousing rendition of the first of the evening's numerous "Portraits". *Good Times*, dedicated to Lester Young, was immediately followed by the slow-building *Swallows on the Water*, inspired by the late West Indian saxophonist Joe Harriott.

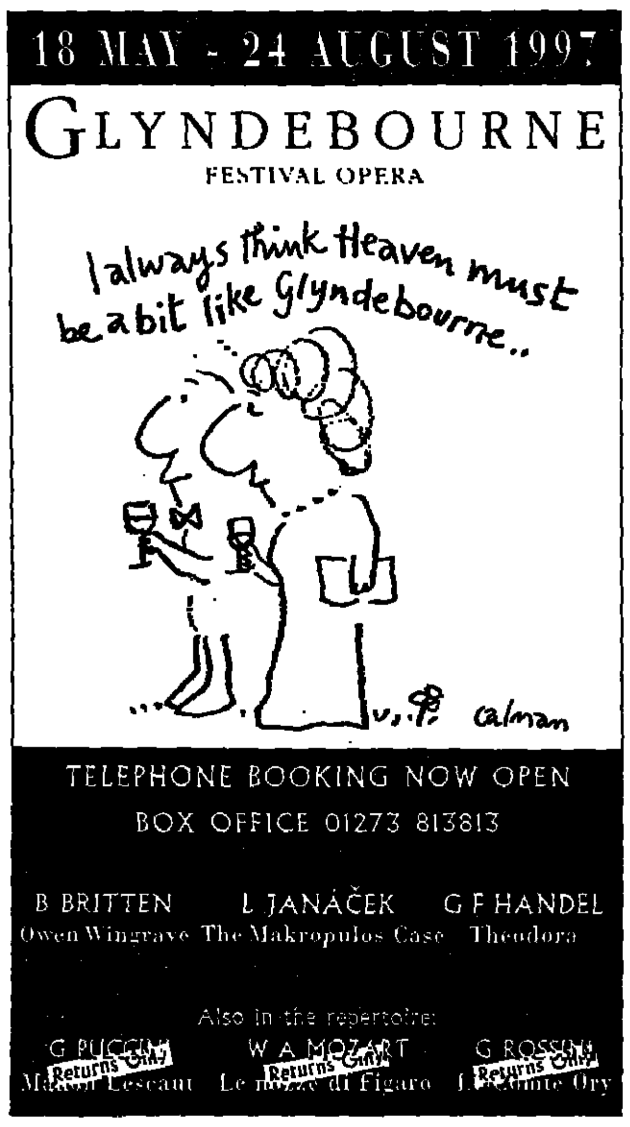
JAZZ

Michael Garrick
Purcell Room

A snappy, almost Mingusian piece from *Jazz Praises*, *Salvation March*, introduced one of the evening's most memorable soloists, alto player Matt Wates, but the hub of the concert's first half was provided by a sensitive vocal performance by Jacqui Dankworth. Whether gliding through Garrick's swooning blues portrait of Ben Webster, or injecting powerful pathos into Ellington's *Blues* from *Black, Brown and Beige*, her smooth, warm voice provided an elegant centre for all the busy virtuosity around her.

As prominent in the concert's second half was Garrick's violinist son Chris, who performed with considerable aplomb. If this rich evening's music had a fault, it was entirely unavoidable: Garrick's conducting duties prevented his showing off his distinctive piano playing.

CHRIS PARKER



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GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: NEIL RUTHERFORD

Profession: Actor/composer/director. Born in Manchester, raised in Letchworth, Herts.

Age: 27.

Latest credits: Currently to be seen in the touring production of *Salad Days*, he also directed the Mercury Workshop's recent, highly praised revue *Late & Lyrical*, presented at the Jermyn Street Theatre. He will be on the big screen shortly, playing alongside Zoe Wanamaker in director Beeban Kidron's new film, *Amy Foster*. A ballet commission and a musical are in the works, too.

He wears many hats, then: "I don't like being categorised. I like being able to swap and choose between directing, performing and composing. I enjoy all three, and as long as I can juggle them, it's great."

What was his earliest stage experience? "I was bopping around inside my mother when she was pregnant and playing one of the nuns in an amateur production of *The Sound of Music*." He made a more conventional sort of debut in a staging of *Carousel* when he was five. He wrote his first musical, *Letters*, while at college, winning financial backing from impresario Cameron Mackintosh.

Most exciting experience so far? Appearing at the Palladium as Motel the Tailor in *Fiddler On The Roof* with Topol, three years ago. "Just to be on the stage of the Palladium was amazing."

The shoestring budget of *Late & Lyrical* must have been quite a contrast: "It was a challenge to have little more than a box and a tree to work with as a set. I was still involved with it when the *Salad Days* tour started: directing by telephone is fun."

What about the new show-in-progress? *A Life To Come* is based on short stories by E.M. Forster. "My original aim was to write a musical version of *Maurice*, but it was too difficult to get the rights. There's a gay element to the show, but I'm really attracted to the romanticism of the Edwardian era."

But can the young writers showcased in *Late & Lyrical* compete with the mega-musicals? "Yes, but it's going to take time, because the vast majority of coach parties want to see the blockbusters. I do recognise that the big wows are the audience-pullers — the West End musical has never been so popular. Yet I can foresee the emergence of studio-type shows modelled on composers like Sondheim. I just wish that producers would see that too: most of them just don't want to take risks. I am optimistic, though."

CLIVE DAVIS

A rose in her own right

WHO needs an all-dancing, all-singing West End spectacular when you can have Amanda McBroom instead?

She must be weary of being described as the woman who wrote *The Rose* for Bette Midler, since she has plenty of other credits to her name. Brash yet sophisticated, she has devised a quite unmissable entertainment, bravely placing the emphasis on her own compositions.

CABARET

Amanda McBroom
Pizza on the Park

Like all skilful cabaret singers McBroom brings conversational intimacy to a lyric, yet she is also capable of abrupt shifts into a purer, operetta-like register.

Some of her finest songs — *Dance*, *Ship in a Bottle* — unfold beautifully observed studies in disillusionment. Her training as an actress allows her to attack lyrics with an intensity which might otherwise be unbearably melodramatic. On her new album, *A Waiting Heart*, the lush orchestral arrangements can prove a distraction, but in concert Joel Silberman's cultured piano-playing formed the ideal foil, prodding her ever onwards. The countrified waltz, *Errol Flynn*, offered McBroom's touching memories of her own father, David Bruce, a film actor destined always to be a supporting player. A superb medley flowed from the wide-eyed romance of the standard *Teach Me Tonight* — adorned with playful doo-wop style piano triplets — to the brutal dissolving of wordly goods on *You Can Have The TV*. But it was not wall-to-wall melancholia — McBroom's self-deprecating wit always shone through.

CLIVE DAVIS

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■ DESIGN

Gardens in the sky: Norman Foster's new Frankfurt tower puts the wow into office life

■ MUSIC 1

Matthias Bamert resuscitates a miniature masterpiece by Berthold Goldschmidt

THE TIMES ARTS

■ MUSIC 2

... while London hears Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's jaunty new Piccolo Concerto

■ VISUAL ART

Birds of a feather: Edinburgh enjoys an exhibition of remarkable miniatures

Opposites attract

CONCERTS

RPO/Maxwell Davies
Barbican

SIBELIUS 7 has transformed composers' lives, or so we're told. And here was Peter Maxwell Davies on the podium with the Royal Philharmonic to prove it. Whether or not Davies uses the music computer program of that name I cannot be sure, but he certainly knows his way around the original article.

Sibelius's method of achieving thematic unity out of fragments is nearly the reverse of a favourite Davies compositional process; but another composer, of whatever hue, is likely to bring insights to the interpretation of a work as tightly constructed as Sibelius's Seventh.

Davies's reading was most convincing in its realisation of the shape of the whole. It was less satisfying in its evocation of atmosphere. Sibelius's textures are so detailed that decisions have constantly to be made about what is to be foreground and what background. There were times here when too much was jostling for attention.

Davies as composer was represented by a new work: a piccolo concerto receiving its London premiere, and skilfully played by Stewart McIlwham. The piccolo may have obvious limitations as a solo instrument, but Davies is not one to shirk a challenge. What he does is to play with the stereotypical modes of the instrument, so that the military "pipe and drum" effect is hinted at near the beginning of the third movement, while the jaunty manner is recalled at the close of the first, but as through a veil.

A potentially comic partnership with the bass clarinet is also dignified when the two instruments engage in meditative dialogue in the second movement. The bass clarinet is better equipped for this mode than the piccolo, but finally even Davies's ingenuity — and McIlwham's versatility — is exhausted.

More predictable but not lacking in passion or warmth was the account of Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1 in G minor, with Tasmin Little the soloist.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Young at heart

SCO/Bamert
Edinburgh

THE difference between Berthold Goldschmidt's Violin Concerto and his *Rondeau*, which also features a solo violin, is not just the 40 years that elapsed between them. It is a matter of inspiration. Apart from a weak third movement, the concerto, in its revised version, is an accomplished and attractive work. The *Rondeau*, which was written for Chantal Juillet after Goldschmidt had heard her perform the concerto in 1994, is a little masterpiece.

It is encouraging to think of a composer in his nineties so moved by the playing of a young violinist — and, one imagines, her personality — that he could produce something as fresh as the *Rondeau*. Cryptographically, it derives its main theme from the musical letters in its subtitle, *Rue du rocher*, the street in Paris where Goldschmidt first thought of the piece over a meal with Juillet and Charles Dutoit. Essentially, it is about the sound and style of playing that inspired the piece, with its particularly eloquent passages of double-stopping and its happy vivacity.

The first British performance of the *Rondeau* in its authentic form with chamber ensemble was an interesting occasion. The interpretation offered by Matthias Bamert with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Juillet in the Queen's Hall was less characterful than the composer's account shortly before his death last year, but it was more successful in integrating the sometimes awkward wind counterpoints and smoothing out the bumps in the scoring.

The Violin Concerto, which was almost persuasively performed in the same concert, might have been better if, having perceived that there was a weakness in the last of the three movements of the original version, Goldschmidt had cut it out and replaced it. Leaving it where it was and adding a new finale makes a substantial and impressive work of it, slightly flawed in its unflighty gigue though it might still be.

GERALD LARNER

The height of horticulture

ARCHITECTURE: **Marcus Binney** reports on Sir Norman Foster's remarkable new tower of gardens

London may be saying no to Sir Norman Foster's vision of a *soaring Millennium* Tower. But Frankfurt has no such qualms. Foster's new Commerzbank headquarters, now virtually complete, already rejoices in the title of Europe's tallest building. The big difference is that the Frankfurt tower is not twice as high as its neighbours but only gently nudges past them.

Designed with a brilliant engineer, Chris Wise of Ove Arup, it is good news for all those who toil in hermetically sealed office blocks. Foster's office of the future is a gigantic garden reaching 57 storeys into the sky, with spectacular views from every desk, and providing, at the press of a button, a gust of cool fresh air as invigorating as that through the windows of an Alpine chalet.

To the locals, Foster's Commerzbank building in downtown Frankfurt may look "no big deal". But inside it sets a standard which all must envy. "It all stems from one simple idea," says Uwe Nienstadt, Foster's man on the spot. Traditionally, skyscrapers have had a central core containing the lifts. Here Foster has placed the service cores in the three corners of an equilateral triangle leaving a soaring void in the middle.

Stand in the centre of the main lobby and look up, and you have the sensation of peering into the world's biggest kaleidoscope: a 500ft vertical tube lit by the sky and broken into a myriad crystalline triangles. These are in fact the glazing bars of three transparent smoke breaks and the glass roof above.

Foster's grand idea is the creation of a series of nine giant conservatory gardens in the sky, rising round the tower like the steps of a huge spiral staircase. The partner in charge, Spencer de Grey, explains: "The whole aim was to avoid the endless repetitive floors of the normal tower and create a village-like quality, with 240 employees enjoying each garden."

Each garden is four storeys high and runs the length of one side. Wherever you sit you can see one above and one below. The huge outside windows of the gardens seem the size of Imax screens and provide vistas across the city.

The bank has put vending machines in all the gardens (perhaps not quite as Norman would have designed) and the broad edges of the planting beds are all at seat or bar height. In the world of the laptop and the mobile phone, I would be tempted to work here all day.

> ‘The gardens will create the feeling of small villages’

Best of all is the intensely fresh scent as you enter, like walking into a country garden after the rain. Each garden is different — Mediterranean on the south, Asian on the east and American on the west — and planted in turn with cypresses and olives, cedars, rhododendrons and bamboos.

Commerzbank has rejected open plan in favour of a Scandinavian "combi" layout by which staff will sit in rooms with floor-to-ceiling glass partitions which allow people to see but not hear what goes on inside. "Just 30 people will work on each side of each floor. That is an enjoyable grouping," says de Grey. The test comes when bank staff, still apprehensive about abandoning traditional small offices, move in next month.

The extraordinary sense of openness comes from the complete lack of internal columns. This is the super-scale engineering at which Foster excels, the successor to the giant coathanger trusses he used on his Hong Kong Bank. Here the weight of the spans is carried on huge square trusses with horizontal beams concealed within window seats. Each window pane is about twice as wide as usual in an office block, again reducing the sense of being boxed in.

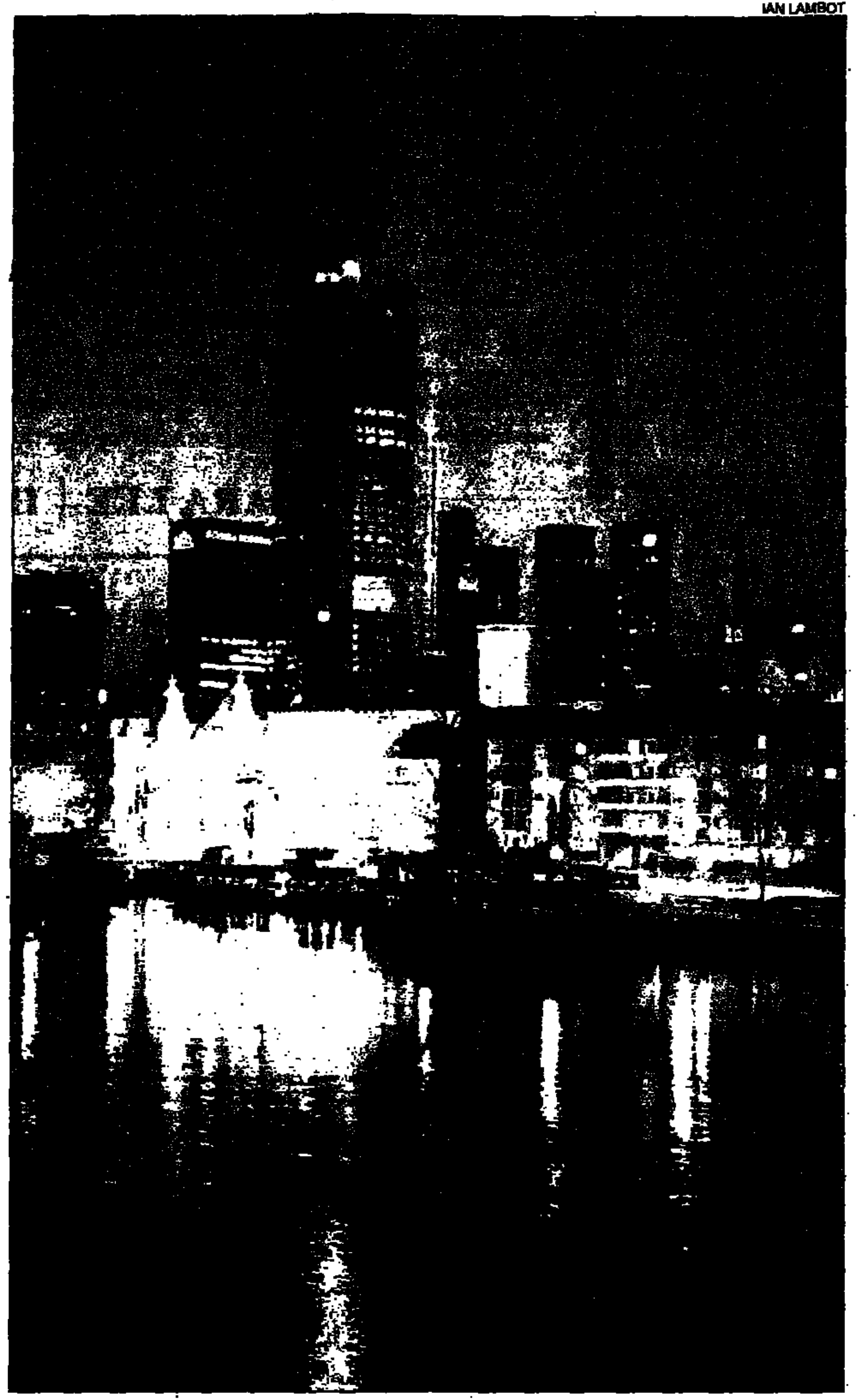
Press the "open" button and a grating noise like a portcullis follows as the whole window tilts back from the top. Even on a still day there is an immediate refreshing rush of air, as well as the startling and welcome hum of city life below.

The real fresh air fiend can also venture out onto the generous balconies outside the gardens, which have head-high glass balustrades to prevent vertigo. Here, however, the rushing mighty wind that greets you may be a deterrent.

Given that the interior is so sensational, the outside is unexpectedly bland — though it has its beautiful moments, for example at sunset from across the river. Part of the reason is that Commerzbank wanted to know the exact cost before they sank the first pile into the Frankfurt clay, mindful of the fact that the chairman of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank asked Foster for the best office building in the world — and also got the most expensive. So Commerzbank opted for an all-in fixed price contract (£200 million, compared with nearly £500 million in Hong Kong). Out went Foster's louvred panels and in came smooth replacements which have a clip-on look. The local planners also had strong views. "They did not want a Miesian high-rise set back across a plaza: an American solution they felt would be devoid of people," says Nienstadt.

Instead the planners insisted that at street level Foster built out to the old building line. Now there is a generous glass-roofed plaza open to the public. It contains a restaurant where works of art will be on show from local museums. An imaginative solution, in keeping with the whole project. Ten years ago I swore I would never work in a high-rise block again. Foster might just change my mind.

IAN LAMBOT



Reflected glory: Foster's Commerzbank building in Frankfurt will open next month

VISUAL ART: **John Russell Taylor** admires treasures from Japan and Italy

A big hand for the little people

If you believe that small is beautiful, Edinburgh has the ideal shows for you. The more spectacular is that devoted to the 19th-century Japanese artist **Shibata Zeshin** at the Royal Museum of Scotland. Zeshin is not a household name in the way that Hokusai or Utamaro are, for a very good reason: while they worked in colour woodblocks which were easily disseminated throughout the world, he is a master — perhaps the supreme master — of lacquer. Moreover, he was very famous in his own lifetime (1807-1891), and most of his work has stayed in Japan, despite the eagerness of Western connoisseurs.

Or had, until Dr Nasser Khalili came on the scene. Dr Khalili is a collector of unique determination, as those who saw a trawl of his Ottoman collection at the Brunei Gallery last year will remember. The result in this case is an assembly of about 70 pieces in a display hitherto unrivalled, even in Japan. Most of the pieces are small — no larger than can be held in the hand — although there are also some more ambitiously scaled trays and wall-plaques, as well as a screen and a handful of works on paper.

The lacquered lid of a writing box made c 1860-70 by the influential 19th-century Japanese artist, Shibata Zeshin

But what infinite riches in the single gallery they now inhabit. In Japan, Zeshin is regarded as a prime example of that untranslatable quality *iki*, which is rendered roughly as "light and unconstrained, gallant without being obstinate, playful but never tiresome, assertive but not argumentative". In other words, the man had style. Again and again in this show one can see the combination of ease, inventiveness and total discipline. The glamorous materials are employed with astonishing economy, never flaunting themselves, to make writing-boxes, purses, *sake* cups, fans and scrolls. Usually the colours are subdued; occasionally they flare up, as in the teatray with a brilliant red teapot on it.

Presumably Zeshin's many patrons wanted his work for their own personal pleasure. **Cassiano dal Pozzo** had something more far-reaching in view. He was an early 17th-century Roman collector and connoisseur. One of Poussin's most important patrons and a friend of Galileo, he was not hesitant in embarking on a vast project in his Museo Cartaceo, or Paper Museum. He wanted to cover graphically as much as possible of the world's assembled wisdom, and since he was not able to buy all the antiquities he needed for his scheme, he set a group of mostly young artists (some of whom, such as Pietro da Cortona, went on to later fame) to document in drawings everything worth knowing in the ancient and modern worlds.

Many of the original 7,000 drawings have found their way into the Royal Collection at Windsor, and from there into a weird and wonderful loan show at the National Gallery of Scotland. The technique is usually miniaturist, even if the drawings themselves are large. Cassiano's enterprise may be odd, but you can't help admiring his sense of purpose. And some absolutely exquisite drawings result.

● Shibata Zeshin *is at the Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers St, Edinburgh (0131-225 7534) until Oct 1.* Cassiano dal Pozzo's Paper Museum *is at the National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh (0131-556 8921) until June 8*

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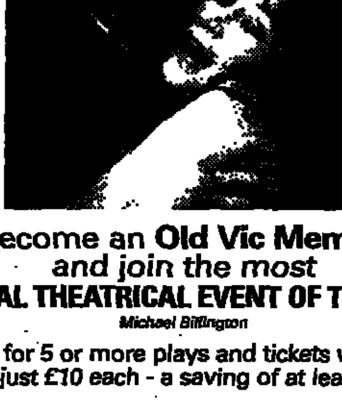

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Keeping the MD up to date on every aspect of the Group of Companies, generating your own correspondence, liaising with manufacturers and placing orders for product, liaising with the sales team and Licensors. General administration to assist in the day to day running of the company. Salary AAE.

Please send your CV to Mr Mark Hayward, 18 Hanway Street, London W1P 9DD or fax to 0171 636 0738.

PA/ADMINISTRATOR FOR DESIGN CONSULTANCY.

Computer Literate, with good knowledge of Excel and Word. Bookkeeping Experience essential, payroll an advantage. Salary according to experience.
Reply to SDA, 8-16 Cromer Street, London WC1H 8LL or fax 0171 833 1330.

INTERESTING JOBS FOR INTERESTING PEOPLE

MEDIA RECEPTION £11,000

Top creative media consultancy need well spoken, nineteen plus to join busy Reception team and really contribute to their hectic sociable environment.

PUBLISHING £16,000

Get involved with this small *Professional Publishers* as Secretary/Personal Assistant to Directors. Allround and varied offering scope for initiative.

ART IN W1 TO £15,000

Assist the Experts with their cataloguing, using your *excellent* WP skills and European languages. Liaising with overseas clients. An interesting role.

The* COVENT GARDEN *Bureau

8 MADDOX STREET W1 **0171 495 8822** 2 MINS FROM OXFORD CIRCUS

هكذا: من الاعلان

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

FASHION
£25,000

This leading fashion group have an opening for a PA to join at senior board level. You will undertake your own projects, organise events, liaise with clients and become involved in all aspects of the decision making process. Retail background preferred. 60wpm typing essential, shorthand preferable.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LEGAL
£20,000

+ Blue chip benefits. Telecommunications group offers opportunity for an energetic and ambitious individual to learn and progress. Assist director of legal services in a varied administrative role. Degree and legal secretarial qualifications an advantage. 60wpm typing / MS Office.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WEST END TEMPS
Secretaries and Receptionists

- Top hourly rates, loyalty bonus and paid bank holidays.
- Cross training onto the latest systems.
- Immediate short and long term assignments; matched to your individual experience and skills.

For more information please telephone Jo, Sophie, Jane & Astrid on **0171 499 8070**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

FINANCIAL PA
£22,000 + B Bens

This rapidly expanding financial company are seeking a top PA to support 2 senior executives. There will be presentations to do, lots of organising and fort holding within a challenging environment. Excellent opportunities to develop your skills with this organisation. Powerpoint.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TRUE PA
c£25,000 + Benefits

An involving and varied 1:1 role assisting a very successful gentleman with varied business interests. Usual secretarial duties apply, but the main part of your day will be organisation and client contact. 90 wpm shorthand minimum.

Please telephone on 0171 628 9529

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Docklands Dream
£25,000 package

Do you want to earn enough money to afford lots of life's little luxuries? Do you want to work in fantastic offices and spend your lunch hour working out in the gym? You can - working as secretary to charming Directors of this Investment Bank. You will be fully rewarded for your enthusiasm and drive. Skills: Word for Windows, Powerpoint and 50 wpm typing. Age to 34. Call Amanda Chesson on 0171 390 7000.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Office Manager
Circa £20,000

We have a wonderful opportunity for a personal assistant to join an exciting Australian law firm based in the City. This is a dual action role with responsibility for assisting the senior partner in a full secretarial capacity combined with office management duties. Central London location essential. Skills: Shorthand/ 60wpm/ Windows. Please call Sam Garner on 0171 390 7000.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Figure Conscious?
c£20,000 + bonus

London arm of major US Investment firm needs a vivacious, numerate PA to support their enthusiastic MD. Handling liaison worldwide, travel arrangements and all aspects of a senior executive's affairs you will also assist with accounting issues. A Levels and a flair for figures are essential. Skills: 50 wpm, advanced Excel. Age 25-30. Please call Sarah Burt on 0171 390 7000.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Stripey Shirts!
Green Park
19K + Bens

Friendly, dynamic and highly motivated team of young professionals need an Executive Secretary. You will get as involved as you wish and be a main contributor to the smooth running of this business, which is part of one of the world's largest companies. If you are a bright and confident secretary with Powerpoint who wants a varied role with stability, please call Tara Lyons today on 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Media Opportunity SW1
£17,500 + excellent bens

Do you have a genuine interest in the media, first class secretarial skills and wish to work in a corporate and highly demanding environment? No one day will be the same looking after this busy media team of three managers. Dealing with the press and public you will be the soul of discretion, be happy to hold the fort and assist in the coordination of press conferences. A proven secretarial track record and the freedom to work long hours essential. Call Alison Scott 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Big Bucks!
West London
£20-22,000

If you love the buzz & pace of the City but don't want to travel that far, I've got just the job for you! Based in one of the most stylish areas in London, a charming young Director urgently needs your support. Your excellent secretarial skills will be put to the test as you prioritise an amazing workload including travel schedules, diary management and ad hoc projects. You will need bags of energy to stay one step ahead of the game in this successful, international environment. If you are IT literate with 60wpm typing call Sue Garwood now on 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Euro Marketing
West End
up to £21,000

Want to get into Marketing? Your outstanding secretarial skills will stand you in good stead to support 2 busy managers in this dynamic, international environment. You will need all your wits about you to prioritise a demanding and varied workload including meetings, travel itineraries, seminars, mailshots and more. Are you a superstar with accurate typing (80wpm) and excellent IT skills? Languages an advantage. Call Sue Garwood on 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

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median
recruitment ltd

PA's in PR £16-18,000

Are you bored and unchallenged by your present secretarial position? Would you like to be liaising with journalists, producing new business presentations, helping to arrange conferences whilst co-ordinating a busy team of consultants? If you have 50wpm typing and at least 1 years secretarial experience, please call Emily Phillips on 0171 637 1828. Fax: 0171 323 0719. 1 Harley Street, London W1N 1DA.

SOUTH MOLTON APPOINTMENTS

GET AHEAD IN ADVERTISING!

Account Co-ordinator c£17,000

Outstanding agency with high-profile accounts seeks people with relevant backgrounds who are fed up with being PAs! You need to be really innovative, proactive and team orientated to fit in with this whacky environment - and you *will not look back.*

PA to Account Director c£15,000

Fantastically varied role for someone with a year's secretarial experience and a love of Powerpoint! Bright, forward-planner with loads of common sense and strong client-handling skills also able to manage corporate entertainment and research into competitive brands.

PA to Creative and Media Directors c£13,000

New position ideal for bright college leaver with good typing (50 wpm), Powerpoint and a real interest in the creative side of advertising. This fun, friendly department needs organising so this is a great place to learn from! Amongst other tasks you will book meetings talk to clients and have real involvement with this lively team.

For these and similar positions in Public Relations please contact:

Amanda Johnson at 38, South Molton Appointments,
London, W1Y 1HA
Tel: 0171 495 8668 or Fax: 0171 499 8344

SOUTH MOLTON APPOINTMENTS

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Office Manager
Fluent French
£25,000 + good bens

[illegible]

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

No experience necessary!
TOP AD AGENCY
Sec/Assistant - £13,500

[illegible]

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

Hays Banking Secretarial

SENIOR SECRETARY

CITY *£10+ per hour*

Is it time for a more challenging, senior temporary secretarial assignment? The Corporate Trust department of a city-based Investment Bank has a vacancy for you. Word for Windows, Excel and Powerpoint are essential as well as copy typing speed of 60wpm. If you have used Shorthand within the workplace it would add to your suitability to this position. *Please call to arrange an interview if you are interested in this assignment.*

Call 0171 256 5798

JUNIOR SECRETARY

CITY £8.50+ p/hr

This is a superb long term temporary opportunity for a junior secretary to work in a major financial institution. Our client would ideally like someone who has experience in a general administration role and possess a bright and enthusiastic personality. Word for Windows is a must, Excel and Powerpoint are preferable and your typing speed must be 45wpm or more. Perks include paid overtime and subsidised meals.

Call 0171 256 5798

SENIOR PA/OFFICE MANAGER

LONDON BRIDGE £9.50+p/hr

The busy team working within the Global Trade Finance division of this high profile Investment Bank is currently seeking a new member. You will be putting your excellent organisational skills to good use, prioritising both your own and departmental workload. A proven working knowlege of W4W, Powerpoint and Excel are essential and ideally previous banking experience. Why not make the next step in your career and take up the challenge with this supportive, fun team?

Call 0171 256 5798

SUMMER SECRETARIES

CITY £9.00+p/hr

Are you saving for holidays? Looking to gain further experience? Stuck in a rut and looking for new exciting opportunities? Whatever the reason you are looking we can help! We have various lenght assignments within prestigious Investment Banks and are looking for experienced Team Secretaries and PA's. If you have good MS Office skills and ideally previous banking experience then you could be the person we need. Call us today to find out how we *can help you have fun in the sun this summer!*

Call 0171 256 5798

41/42 London Wall, London EC2M 5TB.
Tel: 0171 638 7003. Fax: 0171 628 5057

PA TO DIRECTOR – UP TO £17.5K + BENS

City based Credit Ratings company are looking for a flexible candidate to support a Director and team. Skills needed are MS Office/50 wpm typing/SH if possible/25+ YOA.

FULL INVOLVEMENT – NO HUGE HOURS!

Top Bank – No finance experience necessary. £20k+ exceptional banking benefits. Fed up of not being involved? This role offers challenge, variety and stacks of client liaison for top Sec./PA with Advanced MS Office.

BIG FISH, SMALL POND! TO £22K + BENS

If you want to get into Banking but prefer a more "homely" environment then this Private Investment Bank in Chancery Lane could be for you. Supporting two very busy Directors you can expect a *full PA role* but not too much overtime. Aged 28-35 and a steady CV essential.

TEMPS! TEMPS! TEMPS!

Why sit at home waiting for your agency to call you when you could be working for one of our prestigious City or West End clients and earn SERIOUS MONEY? Here is just a taster of current assignments we are looking to fill.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS (min 90 wpm)

- Director's Secretary – Plc – Temp to Perm
- *Director's Secretary – Personnel – 4 weeks*
- MD's Secretary – Property – 2 weeks

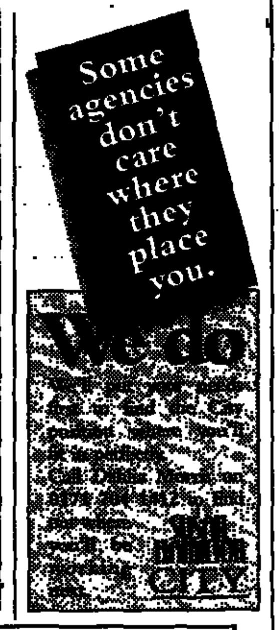
IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS (min 50 wpm)

- Partner's Secretary – Money People – 3 weeks
- Director's Secretary – Marketing – 3 months
- Team Secretary – Consultants – Temp to Perm

If you have excellent secretarial skills, a good working *knowledge of Windows packages* and are aged 20-40, call our Temporary Division NOW!

PAN EUROPEAN
RECRUITMENT

TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501


Some agencies don't care where they place you.
We do
CITY

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

JUST A LOVELY BOSS...
Mature Secretary - up to £20,000

[illegible]

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

CORPORATE FINANCE P.A.
£29,000 + PRP - WC1

Senior legal secretary is now required to work for the head of corporate finance within this very progressive firm of solicitors based close to Chancery Lane. You will need to have an A'level education coupled with previous experience within Company/Corporate Law department working at partner level. You will enjoy a busy and varied workload dealing with all his clients and personal affairs. Good adminstration and organisationa skills are essential as is a fast accurate audio typing coupled with word for windows experience.

Property Secretary - £22,000 + PRP-WC2-Partner Level-Word for Windows
Float Secretary - £21,000 + PRP-Good All Round Legal Exp-Wordperfect for Windows
Litigation Float - £21,500 + PRP-Word for Windows-EC1-All levels-Lots of Overtime
Tax Secretary - £24,000 + PRP-Word for Windows-Partner Level-Full PA Duties
Banking Secretary - £23,000 + PRP-Word for Windows-Partner Level-Lots of *administration/organisational duties.*

For more details on the above positions please call Christine Coates on 0171-470-7050.

CAREER GROUP
26 Market Place • London W1N 7AL
Tel: 0171 470 7050 • Fax: 0171 436 4575
Email: info@career-group.co.uk.

SOCIALITE SEC. IN EC2
c.£17,000 + bens

Exc. social & interpersonal skills are pre-requisites for this varied & stimulating position within a small Int. Co. Attend social events, liaise with overseas visitors and prov. sec support incl audio. Suit mature all-rounder. W4W ess. Excel/Graphics des.

0171 377 6777
Fax 0171 377 5079

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

TOP AD AGENCY
£20K + Bens

True senior PA role organising the lives of 2 high profile busy directors. Varied role req exc Powerpoint/W4W skills. media/ad exp pref. Central London. Immed start. Call The People Business (agy) 0171 344 9113 fax 0171 629 3494 NOW!

Office Administrator

£15,000 – £17,000 per annum
City – opposite Liverpool Street Station

Charity Appointments is a leading recruitment consultancy specialising in senior executives for the charity and non-profit sectors.

We need an experienced Administrator to support *our Chief Executive and her team of consultants in* providing a high quality service to clients by ensuring the efficient day-to-day management of the office. You will have sound word-processing and database management experience, be well organised and have first-class communication skills. Interested applicants should apply by letter with CV to Ann Townsend, Charity Appointments, Longcroft House, Victoria Avenue, London EC2M 4NS.

Closing date: 12th May, 1997.
Final interviews: 19th May, 1997.

charity appointments
promoting professional leadership

Imperial Cancer Research Fund is one of Britain's largest charities. Our aim is to prevent, treat or cure all forms of cancer.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

LONDON WC2

Salary £20,000 p.a. (inclusive)

This is an exciting opportunity to utilise your full range of administrative skills. As Personal Assistant to the Finance Director you will provide administrative/secretarial support and have responsibility for specific aspects of the overall management of the Finance Directorate.

Alongside the usual secretarial duties e.g. dealing with correspondence, arranging travel and diary management you will assist in areas such as the development and implementation of the training and development programme, budget control and the maintenance of leave/sickness records.

Ideally applicants will be educated to A'Level standard (or equivalent) *with qualifications in English and Maths. You will need formal secretairal* training with at least 3 years' experience in a secretarial/administrative role. This post will suit an enthusiastic, proactive individual who is willing to work independently and use their initiative. Knowledge of Microsoft Word 6, Power Point and Excel would be an advantage, although training can be provided.

To apply please send 2 copies of your CV, a covering letter and the names and addresses of 2 referees to: The Personnel Department, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX, quoting reference 1461/T. Closing date: 12 May 1997.

WE HAVE A NO SMOKING POLICY

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

We are an equal opportunities employer

Sporting Chance c£16,000 p.a.

Working as PA/Sec for this amazing Sales & Mktg. Org. You will be early 20's, highly organised and prepared to participate in a dynamic, fast-moving sporting events environment with enthusiasm and drive!

People Person c£16,000 p.a

As a graduate 2nd jobber with wp skills, you're ready to *take on this dynamic* Partnership in the world of Exec. Search! Co-ordinating, liaising and organising everything will still leave time for research and admin.

Produce Results! c£14,000 p.a

Running this elite Publishing Co, you'll have a finger in every pie! Progress chasing for dead lines, liaising with printers, sorting out advertising, you'll need to be highly organised with strong wp skills and a 'can do' outlook for trouble shooting!

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
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£20,000 Pd Travel & Bens Marketing

Working at director level for this world leading drinks company, you will be supporting 2 executives who travel frequently & need you *to run their office in their absence.* You will be a pro-active, resourceful person who enjoys working independently & using your organisational & communication skills to the full. 60+ typing.

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An Exceptional Individual
£19,500 + *o/time, bonus, great bens*
(inc mort sub + free gym)

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THE ROLE-MODEL
£25,000 + pens, STL, bonus

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Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

CAREER DESIGN LIMITED

Personal Assistant
£28,000

Prestigious City firm wishes to appoint a Personal Assistant to their Director of Finance and team. Traditional inter-personal skills combined with a professional secretarial background would suit this post. A proactive approach to daily deadlines is required. Arrange and prepare meetings, organise diaries, manage and co-ordinate document production, *responsibility for departmental administration.* Set up and update extensive file system, respond to confidential business and private correspondence. This appointment would suit a mature candidate with proven secretarial and wp skills, Excel, numeracy and a high degree of general intelligence.

Post or fax your resumé to Diane Hilton at Career Design, 75 Watling Street, London EC4M 9BJ. Fax 0171 236 8299. Telephone 0171 489 0889.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

College to Career
International Banking
£12,000 to £17,000

We are brimming with the City's most exciting career opportunities in International Merchant Banking. Never has there been so much unlimited scope within the 'cut and thrust' of front line banking - dealing, trading, corporate finance.

- Positive, ambitious professional young secretaries from college leavers, ready to take the first important steps. Salary £12,000 + Banking package at 18 yrs = £15,000
- 2nd jobber/executive level secretaries, committed to becoming totally involved beyond their current position. Salary £17,000 + Banking package = £20,000.

MAY & STEPHENS

Ibex House, 42-47 Minories
London EC3N 1DY
Tel: 0171 488 9922 Fax: 0171 702 3351

ONE TO ONE
£22K+++

Polished PA with exceptional Secretarial/organisational skills to work for a Group Director with this prestigious blue chip company. MS Office + 60wpm ess. S/H useful.

Job Selection
Tel: 0171 626 0066
Fax: 0171 626 0066

The Carousel Consultancy Ltd

MATURE PA **£24,000**
Team Sec 2 posts due to expansion prestigious business consultants. Full training on applemac - you will need 60wpm and audio

FLUENT ITALIAN **£19,000 + MORT**
Support busy team of 3 in international banking. Organise diaries, travel, accom and reconcile expenses. W4W & powerpoint ess.

Carousel Cosultancy (Rec Cons)
Tel: 0171-240 2833 Fax: 0171-240 7300

PERSONAL ASSISTANT £23,000

Working for this large company you will be involved and challenged on a daily basis. A good organiser with excellent secretarial skills including knowledge of Powerpoint. You will be liaising with clients and providing full support for your manager. Rewarding position with excellent bens.

..please call Caroline Butcher on 0171 499 5881

Adecco Elite

CREME DE LA CREME

Aldrich & Company

Directors Secretary
£23,000 + Bens

Fabulous right hand role with a leading blue-chip company. Lots of client liaison and attending meetings. Pro-active approach and good organisational skills essential. Call Emma Silverman

High Profile PA
£21,500 + Bank Bens

Pkg £30K. *Be on the front* line in investment banking. A born organiser required with experience of working in a seriously high profile *environment with lots of* client contact.
Call Emily Aldrich.

Maternity Cover
c to £1300 per hour

PA To Chief Executive. To work on the Trading Floor of a leading Investment Bank in EC2. Splendid opportunity. Must have great skills and *confident personality.* MS Office. Call Kim St. John

Trading Places - EC4
£20K + O/T & B Bens

Dynamic European Team requires a professional PA with good language skills to organise them! Secretarial support, corporate hospitality. *travel and meetings on the* dealing floor. Call Alex Gaze

Tel: 0171 588 8999 — CITY RECRUITMENT — Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

Personnel Assistant
to £16K + Bank Bens

Prestigious City bank needs an enthusiastic graduate to assist 2 busy Managers. Lots *of organising* including junior recruitment. A busy role with great potential.
Call Emma Silverman

Co. Sec. Office - EC2
£16K + Bank Bens

Hectic department in leading bank needs an organised sec with 2 years experience. Lots of organising meetings and telephone work. Superb potential for sec. with 55+ *typing. Call Alex Gaze*

Trading Floor Secretary
£14K + O/T & B Bens

Fantastic opportunity to get started on a trading floor - provide support to a busy team doing letters, faxes, organising travel and meetings. Confident phone *manner essential.*
Call Sarah Turnbull

Financial PR, SW1
£16K + Great Bens

A really great role working for 3 fun Directors. Organise press conferences/events and prepare reports. Lots of variety and involvement. S/H a plus. Call Alex Gaze

Tel: 0171 588 8999 — CITY RECRUITMENT — *Fax: 0171 588 8998*

Portfolio

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
STOCKLEY PARK

SECRETARY CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

This is an exceptional opportunity for a highly skilled and professional secretary to join a small team supporting the Chairman of a prestigious international company within the media industry.

Working in Central London with the Executive Personal Assistant you will be responsible for day to day corresopondence, diary management, travel itineraries. You will assist in the organisation of high profile events and have considerable telephone liaison with the offices of other "captains of industry".

The successful candidate will

- possess fast accurate typing *skills and shorthand 90/100* wpm minimum
- be computer literate using MS Office systems
- have a genuine desire to take the initiative in an enthusiastic energetic manner and be flexible towards working hours
- enjoy a busy and demanding team role demonstrating meticulous standards

Focused on finding the most suitable applicant a competitive package is offered and consideration will be given to offering the position either as a permanent placement or a temp to perm option.

Please contact Jean Young, Portfolio, Arena Forum, Stockley Park, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB11 1AA. Telephone: 0181 899 1702/Fax: 0181 899 1712.

JUNIOR SECRETARY
£15,000

Terrific opportunity for a secretary (20ish) to take the next step up. One of the nicest banks *in the City needs* you to help their charming Senior Secretary & her Head of Dept. You must have good skills and a little experience. You will be in a position *to learn everything* whilst enjoying this friendly environment. To find out more please call.

Tel: 0171 377 5500 fax: 0171 377 5599.

CROSS SELECTION

TEMPS TO £12.00 PER HOUR

Top rates. Great jobs. User friendly consultants. Some of the best companies to work for City & West End locations. How? Simple really, we want the best for you, *our respected* clients and ourselves. Good secretarial skills (possibly another language), adaptability *and* flexibility are the keys to successful temping. Whether *you seek* a long term contract, a temp to perm job or a few weeks here or there, we can help. So call *us today*

Call Nicole Simmons on 0171 377 5500 or *fax your CV* to 0171 377 5599.

CROSS SELECTION

Corporate Finance Plus x 10

to £30,000 Packages

I currently have several existing opportunities *for secretaries* who want to work within the fast moving world of Corporate Finance. The roles will incorporate typing and co-ordinating presentations and extensive client liaison. The ideal candidates will be aged 25–35 with MS Office experience.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

JONATHAN WREN & CO LTD,
FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
NO.1 NEW STREET, LONDON EC2M 4TP
TEL: 0171 623 1266 FAX: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

Economic Research

£25,000 + MS + Benefits

Providing secretarial and administrative support to a team of Economists within a major International Investment Bank. This is a demanding role in a fast-paced environment *involving preparing* reports and extensive liaison with other departments. Banking experience essential and 'A' Level education preferred.

Please contact Margaret Sorohan.

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FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
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TEL: 0171 623 1266 FAX: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

POP INTO PERSONNEL

£16K + EXC BENS

Personnel exp not req'd to gain this full sec/personnel admin/co-ord. role. *Supporting the* v.personable Head of Personnel + back-up to HR team. duties will be both involved & rewarding. Lots of people interaction. arranging interviews, org'g training seminars, recruitment admin. arranging social events, dinners/mtgs etc. V. good prospects for a bright sec with 1yrs sec exp.. Maths/Eng GCSE C+ & 60wpm WP. Call Peter.

Tel: 0171 287 3664 Fax: 0171 287 3564

NEXT EMPLOYMENT

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

Publishing Co-ordinator with office experience and knowledge of book *production, editorial and design* to work for *delightful children's book* publishers in Central London co-ordinating all press schedules for international projects. Must have excellent administration skills, coupled *with an impeccable attention to detail and enjoy compiling* reports using WP 6.1 and Macs. Immediate start. £15.000

Marketing Assistant/Secretary. Unflappable graduate with 50wpm typing, excellent organisational and writing skills and lots of initiative to join our busy executive recruitment division. Friendly team. £12-14.000. Immediate start.

Top PA's wtih 100 wpm shorthand and excellent typing on WP4W needed for various temporary positions in Media/Creative areas. £10+ per hour.

JFL

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Tel: 0171-493 8824 Fax 0171-493 7161
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

"ON THE BALL" IN PR
£16K + BONUS & more!

An organised livewire! who loves liaising and using their brain will find this the perfect job! Supporting a Director and Account Team you'll provide total organisation and secretarial support whilst getting fully involved in their projects. New business development back-up and client contact is all part of this varied role. TYP 60 wpm. MS Office. Age 20s. Graduate pref.

YOUNG, ASPIRING SECS!
£16K +BONUS, GYM++

...lunch, BUPA, STL and more! Two years' experience and ready for your *next great move? Join prestigious* blue chip co at the cutting edge of management consultancy in the City. Several opportunities with full involvement and the chance to show off your organisational and secretarial flair. Offer full support at management level working in a lively, friendly team. TYP 60 wpm. Word, Excel & P'Point. Age 22-28.

LOVE TYPING?
c£15K

Young, dynamic market research co. providing surveys to multi-users from magazine editors to politicians. Fast, accurate typing to produce varied documents for energetic sales team! Co-ordinate travel, screen calls & organise office admin. including filing. TYP 60 wpm. Age 20s.

Call Karen Hutchinson on 0171-256 6668.

LOVE & TATE

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football marketing

PA in TV – £18,000

GORDON·YATES

The company: Leading name in global TV sports marketing and distribution.

The role: One to one PA to a senior executive within a young, buzzy sales environment.

The essentials: Outgoing personality; professional approach; confident shorthand/typing; interest in sport; languages useful.

Please call on 0171-494 4466 or fax us on 0171-494 4466.

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This is a fabulous opportunity for a bright *college leaver or second jobber to work for this* well known and highly successful fashion house. Your role will be extremely varied and busy as *you will* assist the *European Office Manager.* Working within a young and dynamic team your secretarial and organisational skills will be used to the full. You must be immaculately presented and have the desire to work as an integral part of an expanding company. Good secretarial skills are essential. European language useful.

0171 225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

SMART YOUNG SECRETARY

Are you keen to use your *initiative? Replying to this* ad would be a very good start because our client, a leading city Investment Bank can offer you career progression, an *excellent salary* and a really interesting, involved *role.* Working at Director level you will organise meetings, travel, diaries and social events. It is a fast-moving but very friendly *environment* and the offices are superb. Ongoing training is offered and you will also benefit from the support of highly organised back-up staff. Benefits include lunch, bonus and paid overtime. Basic salary up to 21K plus package = 24K. Take the *initiative & call us today!*

Tel: 0171 377 5500 fax: 0171 377 5599

CROSS SELECTION

TRILINGUAL PA

Excellent benefits £25,000 p.a.

SW1 Finance Company requires an experienced PA with fluent English, French and German to translation level. Interesting and demanding role with lots of involvement. Age 25+.

DTP SEC/ADMIN

Excellent benefits £22,000 p.a.

Professional co in W1 req Graduate with good PowerPoint, Excel and Word for Windows to produce reports/publications and undertake PA duties inc organising seminars and extensive travel arrangements. Age 20-40.

YOUNG SECRETARY

Advertising Agency £18,000 p.a.

Working for one of the largest Advertising Agencies in the UK, you must be well spoken, flexible and ideally with experience of PowerPoint. You must be able to cope with a busy, demanding environment. Age 20-27.

TEMPORARY STAFF

Up to £9.00 per hour

We have a range of temporary bookings currently available to candidates who have worked as a PA, Shorthand Secretary, Audio Secretary and Receptionist.

For further information please telephone **Wendy** or **Rachel** for permanent vacancies or **Jane** for temporary appointments.

LA CREME

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TEL: 0171 420 8008 FAX: 0171 420 8044

LA CREME

Bi-Lingual Secretary

£23,000

An excellent opportunity for a secretary with fluent Greek, Swedish or Finnish, and English to take on a full secretarial role within this impressive government agency. This position demands five years' previous secretarial *experience with 50 wpm and excellent Word* skills. An immediate start on offer for the right candidate.

REED

For Executive Secretarial positions in The West End, Tel: 0171 224 2820

For over 1,000 jobs, visit http://www.reed.co.uk

Partner's Secretary

c£20,000

Highly prestigious firm of chartered accountants seeks a reliable and well organised individual to provide secretarial and admin support to the Divisional Partner in this diverse and multi-faceted role. Five years' previous *experience, Ami-Pro or Word4Windows,* with 60wpm and audio essential to take on this challenging and varied role.

REED

For Executive Secretarial positions In The City, Tel: 0171 638 1666

For over 1,000 jobs, visit http://www.reed.co.uk

GLOBAL HR

£28,000 package

This international investment bank requires a PA to support a senior Human Resources Director. This hectic role will include global liaison at senior level involving executive recruitment strategies, drafting your own correspondence and the organisation of complex travel itineraries and total involvement in confidential personnel issues. You will be involved 100% in all projects and expected to act in a front-*line* role. Your boss is intelligent, client driven, has an advanced financial awareness and very high standards. Experience of working under pressure within a banking or personnel *environment is essential requirement. If you have* an excellent command of English grammar, acute business understanding and secretarial skills of 60 wpm typing and advanced MicroSoft Word and Excel, (Shorthand useful) please call us. Ref: City/02

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

POISED FOR SUCCESS

£28,000 package

This powerful US investment bank offers opportunities for forward thinking and talented individuals to develop involving and rewarding secretarial support roles.

In this senior 1:1 role based on the trading floor, your day will be driven by the time sensitive demands of your boss, his management team and his clients. You will be producing *presentations, managing a hectic international diary,* organising internal and external events and will be constantly involved in confidential matters at the most senior level.

Your poise, professionalism and energy alongside impeccable secretarial skills, including 80+ wpm shorthand, will equip you to succeed in this responsible role. Ref: City/01

For this and other positions at this level, please call us.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

GLOBAL BANKING

£25,000 package

An exciting opportunity has arisen to work for the dynamic Director of a leading International Investment Bank. He is looking for a top flight senior PA/Secretary to match his energy and enthusiasm.

Your organisational flair will enable you to handle complex travel itineraries, set up meetings and conferences and develop streamlined administrative *procedures. You will be relied upon totally to manage* his time to maximum effect, to represent his views at all levels and to forge strong relationships with his diverse international client base. Your role will also include the day to day running of a busy office, researching companies, compiling presentations and managing a demanding workload. 60 wpm and advanced computer literacy are essential. Ref: OJ/01

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

Dial

PA to Risk Director & Finance Director

Dial Contracts a subsidiary of the Barclays Bank Group currently require an experienced PA to work for two of it's executive directors. A varied and challenging role, you will need to be flexible with highly developed *PA* skills and an excellent knowledge of Word, Excel and PowerPoint. A good sense of humour and the ability to use your own initiative is essential.

Salary £AAE

For an informal chat, call Amanda immediately on 0171 377 6222

eden brown

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Join our rapidly expanding temporary team and have access to interesting bookings in companies ranging from Property to *Commerce. Several of our major clients are* looking for temporary staff including Receptionists with various switchboards, Administrators and Secretaries with different packages to include W4Ws, Powerpoint, Excel and WPs.

We are looking forward to a red hot summer, so don't be left out in the cold!

Call Vicky Andrews
West End Office
Tel: 0171 287 2844
Fax: 0171 287 3717

Call Emma Davies
City Office
Tel: 0171 377 6777
Fax: 0171 377 5079

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

TEMP NOW, PERM ASAP

Don't wait for the perfect job, try the perfect alternative. Temp-to-perm with Tate, London's only exclusively temp agency. A great temp job now. A perfect perm ASAP. You should have 50wpm (S/H useful), W4W, W/Perfect or Ami Pro and DTP skills very useful. Join the Tate team ASAP! Call Cherie Macgregor-Skinner or Rachel Huggins at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0424.

Tate
TEMP SPECIALISTS

OFFICE MANAGER/PA

Do you have excellent administration, typing, IT experience and good interpersonal/teamwork skills – and *are you able to lead by example?*

High profile City recruitment consultancy seeks flexible self-starter to ensure the smooth running of a very busy office while acting as the PA to the branch director and managing the database. Hectic but fun environment where each day brings another challenge!

Call Arabella Cooke on 0171 480 7220, or fax your cv on 0171 481 9888. Alternatively write to her at Hays Inter-Selection, 16 Byward Street, London EC3R 5BN.

Hays Inter-Selection

DO YOU LOVE TYPING? CITY
£16,000 + exc bens

Super opportunity with this prestigious international management consultancy. Excellent proof reading skills *together with an eye for presentation needed to work with this* team of professionals. AmiPro ess, flexible hours and at least 3 years WP experience.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES! CITY
£13,500 - £16,000 + exc bens

A variety of exciting positions working for an international market leader. *Lots of involvement and variety within this busy* coprporate environment. AmiPro, Freelance, Lotus 123, Wordperfect 5.1 desirable as well as 1 year's sec experience.

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT SEC, CITY
£14,000 - £16,000 + exc bens

New role for team player working within this people orientated department. Lots of admin, organising travel, diary management etc. Looking for for somebody who can grow and develop within the role. Must have 55wpm, audio, *advanced WP skills and excellent telephone manner.*

Tel: 0171 377 6777 Fax: 0171 377 5079

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RECRUITMENT LIMITED

ALBANY
APPOINTMENTS

VENUE BOOKINGS c£16,000

Administrator urgently needed for leading Business Conference Company. Dealing with 5,000+ bookings a year (UK + Overseas). Provide an efficient service to dynamic Conference Organisers where tact, charm, unflappability and right style to represent company at hotel negotiations is ess. Hotel bookings/co-ordinator background ideal.

MUSIC PA c£16,000

Famous Entertainment Co. who promote some of the most well known people in the Music/Film industry seek exp. secretary (100wpm S/H - 60 typing) to assist two overworked PA's in putting together music extravaganzas and film premieres

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£20,000 + PRP
PARTNERS SECRETARY
PRIVATE CLIENTS

Senior Partner of International Chartered Accountants *W1 needs a young friendly PA, who* has shorthand experience and fast accurate typing. Full PA role to include managing secretarial staff and some personal work, very involved and varied position. Please call Elaine for an immediate interview.

RAINBOW RECRUITMENT

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Tel: 0171 491 7252 Fax: 0171 491 2887

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TALISMAN* Secretarial *Ltd

We urgently require high quality secretaries. In return we pay *top rates* and offer exciting long and short term assignments in both Corporate and *Media* companies.

Please call Julie Green on: 0171 828 2727

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c£17,500

Do you have 'A' level education and prev good Parliamentary exp? Are you looking for an involved job with a dynamic organisation? Then I have jobs for you! If you are comp lit with Adv Wins & Excel, D'base & 45wpm typing, enjoy a busy people related job liaising constantly with MPs / Lords & Blue Chip companies & are capable or organising meeting & complex travel arrangements then you need to speak to me quickly.

Call me, JACQUALINE on
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A well-known Chief Executive has been head-hunted from a large group to head up a new enterprise.

He needs the support of an outstanding and experienced PA to work alongside him in the development of the business. Age 30-40. Skills 100/70.

Please send your cv to: Stella Boyd-Carpenter
Directors' Secretaries
29 New Bond Street London W1Y 9HD

0171 629 9323

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

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2 x PA to Recruitment Consultant
2 x Recruitment Consultant
2 x Trainee Resourcer

c. £16-25,000
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Opportunity to move into recruitment.

Please contact Carla Newton on 01732 464644.

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c16K

If you are a second jobber with a good secretarial track record, we have a brilliant opportunity to talk to you about in PR. Working for a high profile director, *you will* learn all there is to know about the media/PR business. Typing 55wpm.

Tel: 0171 437 2277

JUDY FISHER
ASSOCIATES
Recruitment Consultants

SPORTS FANATICS
c13K

If you are interested in sports events with an emphasis on football OR tennis then we have the dream job for you. You will be attending finals and assisting in organising large high profile hospitality events. Typing 55wpm.

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"Project your personality" £15K

Young, busy luxurious offices. Suit 2nd jobber. Sec/administrator (50 wpm) to MD of leading PR consultancy. Meet VIP's. Lots of involvement. W4W.

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162 - 168 Regent St, London W1R 5TB
Tel: 0171-306 3262 Fax: 0171-434 0700

YOUNG SEC/EXECUTIVE *ASSISTANT*

21-28 £20-24,000 + pkg.
Superb opp to join this highly respected fund mkt.co. varied role to support c/man on his visits from the US, attend mtgs & provide comprehensive sec support (No S/H). Gd educ + flexibility ess.
Tel: 0171 505 2900
OAKLAND ASSOC.

RECRUITMENT AGENCY.

Recruitment Consultant is required for a busy & friendly South Kensington Agency, may suit experienced person returning to work. Management experience an advantage. Salary desc.

Call Angela Harvey on
0171 225-1565 or fax
CV to 0171 589 4986. Agy.

Winkworth

Secretarial Vacancies
Independent Estate Agency

Winkworth have vacancies for an Executive's *PA* and for an audio secretary in the Residential Investment Department both based at the Head Office in Kensington. Candidates *should* be well presented, enthusiastic, motivated, organised and enjoy the challenge of co-ordinating the busy day to day operation. Both positions require excellent WP (Windows 95) skills, good telephone manner and ability to communicate with people at all levels.

Salaries according to age and experience. 'A' Level education (or equivalent) essential. Confident shorthand/fast, accurate typing essential for the PA.

Please write with c.v. to: Mrs Kate Clark, Winkworth, 118 Kensington Church Street, London, W8 4BH: No agencies.

هكذا من الاصل

CREME DE LA CREME

POISE? PERSONALITY? SENSE OF HUMOUR?

£16,000

Leading International Cosmetic House needs Sales and Marketing Assistant. Join fast moving, busy, buzzy environment. Lots of liaison, must be articulate. Get involved, never a dull moment. Beautiful Offices, Computer Literate. Staff discounts. Great Benefits. No Job Hoppers. Suit 2nd Jobber. Good promotional prospects.

CONCEPT INTERNATIONAL appointments

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Tel: 0171-306 3262 Fax: 0171-434 0700

Marketing Co-ordinator - C£16,500

An exciting opportunity has arisen within this rapidly expanding Co. for a very confident, professional marketing Co-ordinator. You will provide support to the UK Marketing Manager and London Marketing Executive, you will possess excellent organisation and communication skills as your role will involve researching companies, writing proposals, presentations, organising marketing lunches etc. Exp in PR/Marketing is a distinct advantage along with exp in proposals. You will be proficient on P'Point and have 50wpm typing.

Call Claudia or Natalie on 0171 437 8890 Kompass Agy.

FINANCE + PR

£22,000

A dual role working with the Corporate Communications Director which incorporates PR & investor relations and also assisting the Director of Finance - not a lot of figure work. The company is a success story. We need a PA who is confident, has Director level experience & who is comfortable dealing with the press & senior figures in the city.

Powerpoint needed.

Age 25-35.

0171
493 2888

HERITAGE RECRUITMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE CREME

ADMINISTRATOR/Dealing Desk Assistant to £19K-£21K + bank bens. Excellent City career opportunity for strong administrator (preferably with City background) and strong windows based word processing and spreadsheet (Lotus Excel) literacy. If you are a self starter with a good corporate image and communication skills call Birchs Con. 0171 588 5752 Fax 0171 256 5501.

80% Admin. c£20K + Bens. Career move for self assured, capable Legal Sec seeking more inv. + own projects. High element of internal liaison so genuine int. in legal affairs ess. 60wpm + MS Office. Suit exc. comm. skills. Pref. age 23-35. Call Suzanne, Next Employment 0171 287 3664.

ADMIN In HR. To £16K + Exc Bens, Int'l Co. 40wpm WP, 5 GCSE's includ. Maths/Eng C+, exc. admin/organising/client skills ess. Age 21+. Next Employment. 0171 287 3664.

CHARITY ADMINISTRATOR for small but growing international children's trust providing education in Asia and Africa. Experience of office work, developing countries and children, important. Must be hard working, enthusiastic, well organised and fully computer literate. Small office in S.Ken. Flexible hours 20-30 per week (3-4 days). Salary negotiable: Fax 0171 581 9069 with brief details and salary expectations.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

For fun, lively recruitment consultancy in SW London. Suit 22+ with office experience and good telephone manner. Administration skills and interest in computers (pref apple mac's) essential. This is a varied role in a busy, progressive office. Please call Annie on 0171 924 5454

FIRST CREME

MEDIA! MEDIA! MEDIA!

Famous Agency £13,000 + Bonus.

A superb opp for young sec to support two young directors and team, typing presentations, organising diaries and lots of telephone contact with clients. Fantastic bens inc. bar/ gym and good bonus. P/point, W4W & 50 wpm a must! Min 6 months office exp.

Call The People Business now on 0171 344 9113 or fax 0171 629 3494

FIRST CREME

FINE WINES to £13,000. Polished & confident PR secretary sought for household named Knightsbridge based international company. Lots of involvement promised in this exciting position which requires an enthusiastic and organised grad. or 'A' level college leaver secretary with good French. 70/45 skills + windows. Age 20+. Call 0171 437 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

GREEN PARK £12,000. Junior secretary sought by private client bank. Excellent opportunity to consolidate skills. Would suit enthusiastic team player keen to learn in a professional friendly environment. 45 audio typing + Windows. Age 20+. Call 0171 437 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

JUNIOR SECRETARY

For busy West End Property Consultants. Must have a good sense of humour and 50WPM.

Please send CV to

Joanna Seagon
Holley Blake
71 South Audley Street
London W1Y 6LD

CAREER IN ADVERTISING

c£14,000

Leading advertising agency seeks an enthusiastic and eager junior float secretary to work in every dept. You must be flexible and have the confidence to liaise at all levels. 45 + wpm, W4W

Tel: 0171 287 2844
Fax: 0171 287 3717

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

CONSULTANCY SUPPORT

c£14,000 + bens

Enjoy the buzz of working for this dynamic global group in the heart of Covent Garden. Superb opportunity with promotion prospects for a trainee secretary who wants a 'work hard-play hard' atmosphere. 45+wpm, W4W

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Fax: 0171 287 3717

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EXEC. SEC

£15,000

Go straight to the top in this support role located on the Executive floor of this leading IT consultancy. Would suit 2nd jobber who is pro-active, flexible and has the confidence to liaise at all levels. 45+wpm, W4W

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MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

BOYCE

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Fax: 0171 494 4652

INVESTMENT BANKING

£21,000 + bens

Prestigious European Investment bank seeks dynamic self starter with fluent French and 2 years secretarial experience to support 2 senior Executives in Equity research. This is a varied and demanding support role which offers scope to use your own initiative as well as the chance to utilise your excellent interpersonal and organisation skills to the full. Word & Excel experience essential. Powerpoint advantageous.

FIRST CREME

MAYFAIR Prop Co needs bright sec/gen assistant good typing & appearance. c£12K Goldenberg & Co 0171 491 4101

JUNIOR SEC

Chairmans Office of large Media Co. seek bright junior sec. Fast accurate typing, good shorthand essential. Varied role, organising diaires, travel, Powerpoint presentations, general admin. Good prospects. £14,000.

T.J. Office Appts
0171 838 0023

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

BILINGUAL Secretary for sales support role requiring to work in Paris. EMT, fluent French. Previous advertising experience would be beneficial to work for this Media Representation Co reply to Box No 4613

BILINGUAL German PA/Sec to Dir. of trendy Design Co. Some travel. £14-24k a.a.e. Language Recruitment 0171 287 0424

c£20,000 + ppp+ pens+ bens. A Personal Assistant with very good Spanish (written and spoken business knowledge) is needed by this world-famous organisation to work for their busy, charming MD. Age 25+yrs with English M-T and immaculately presented (50wpm typing) and a total professional! Call Maine-Tucker now on 0171 734 7341.

FLUENT French PA - £20K + bens Rep. Office of US Investment Bank now seeks a true PA / Administrator to work in Paris for a busy sales team. Excellent opportunity for a dynamic self starter with good secretarial skills and a flexible approach. ELA 0171 583 0180 Fax: 0171 353 9849.

FRENCH Legal Secretary £18-20K + bens to work for city based litigation lawyers. Excellent copy and audio skills. Interesting position for an experienced individual Euro London Appts Tel: 0171 583 0180 Fax: 0171 353 9849.

FRENCH PA/sec (Eng MT std) to GM of intl HR dept. Busy snr level post reqs a prof & mature approach. All aspects of personnel. Excl WP/typ skills & SH pref. £21K Language Matters Agy 0171 930 1811.

FRENCH spk PR Asst/Sec for prestigious Co. Excl prospects! 50+wpm. £17k. Language Recruitment 0171 287 0424

FRENCH legal. Litigation Partners' Secretary. Superb opportunity in progressive practice. £18K+ neg. Multilingual Services rec cons 0171 930 4880

GERMAN, £27,500. Really senior (MD level) bilingual PA job for someone with English to mother-tongue standard & German fluent enough to do translations. The boss enjoys a high international profile, so needs strong organisational & communication skills. Shorthand useful. Pls fax your cv to Sabina on 0171 390 2997 with a 'phone number (discretion assured). CRONE CORKILL MULTILINGUAL Rec Cons.

LONDON OFFICE of International Law firm requires graduate secretary, 46wpm, Italian, C£13,000, No agencies. Apply to box no 4686

RECEPTIONIST / TELEPHONIST

With occasional German, required for Holborn Solicitors. Good presentation and telephone manner essential. Experience of TDX300 Tel. System would be useful. Good Salary

Apply with CV to:-
Mr. S. Pounds, 1 Bedford Row,
London WC1R 4BZ

NO AGENCIES

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

GERMAN PA to HD of Ops in leading Euro bank. Excl wking enviro in a prof 1-1 role. Snr City exp pref as is SH + ability to liaise at highest level. £24K + BB Language Matters Agy 0171 930 1811.

GERMAN m/t Secretary - £20K + bens Senior Partner of city law firm requires PA to act as lynchpin for offices in London and Germany. Must enjoy audio typing in both languages. 50wpm, MS Office. ELA 0171 583 0180 Fax 0171 353 9849.

HIGH profile German PA - Kent £20K Excellent opportunity for a 'true' PA/Sec for this well established Co. You will possess superb administrative & organisational skills and be highly professional & very corporate. Must have MSOffice & a good knowledge of Spreadsheets. 75% admin role. Exc. prospects & training with this position. Bilingual People Tel: 0171 491 2400 or Fax: 0171 491 1900.

JAPANESE speakers - we are currently recruiting for an office manager in Hemel Hempstead, a marketing assistant for a bank in EC4, a graduate sec. for an international bank, a bilingual PA for a media co. and a financial translator. For further details, please call Kate on 0171 588 4421. Centre People.

PARIS - T.M. International has opportunities for Eng MT bilingual secs. 1) Prestigious Int'l Co seeks office administrator Salary aaa. 2) British Law firm seeks a classic legal secretary. 170 KF +/- 3) American Medical Consulting Co seeks bilingual assistant. Up to 200 KF. Fax your CV today on 00 33 1.47.42.18.87

WATFORD Co. needs PA to Chief Executive. C£16K. Unique 0181 455 8187.

TURKISH speaking customer services operator required by this fantastic West London based international company. A second European language is desirable but fluent English is ESSENTIAL as is the flexibility to work shifts/ nights/ weekends. £6.75 p/hr. Immediate start. Please call Mikaela on 0171 390 7000. Crone Corkill Multilingual rec cons.

SUPER SECRETARIES

£24,000 + a bonus of around £3,000. Flexible, 'switched on' and smart? PA, 30's for venture capital firm. Nifty shorthand and financial background useful. 0171 493 7001 SECRETARIES PLUS, the secretarial consultants.

BANKING Sec/Asst SW1 £21,000 + Benefits. Proactive asst with sound sec/pc skills for international team. Maintain prospect database, liaise with clients, meetings, responsible for projects. A level/Grad 60+ wpm. Career Design 0171 489 0889

FUN IN SW7!

£15,000

Love dealing with people? This Co guarantees daily variety, involvement and a rewarding job for an Assistant with approx. 1 years office exp. Work to deadlines, assist with programmes, organise daily rotas - anything and everything! All in a hectic, but extremely friendly office environment. Good phone manner essential! 50 wpm + W4W.

Phone Anderson Hoare on 0171 824 8821

CLIENT Assistant £22,000 pkg. 6 months exp. self motivated, positive and confident? Enjoy handling calls, dealing with clients and keen to learn about the city? This will be a challenging role working for two busy traders and will suit a keen and eager person. Training given. Please fax CV's 0171 734 4905 Sarah Stewart-Smith Rec 0171 734 5955.

MARKETING to £15,500 + PRP. World famous international company seeks young proactive secretary. Only 30% typing in this lively busy role. Suit flexible team player with some previous marketing experience. 45 wpm typing + Windows. Age 20+. Call 0171 437 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

"JACK OF ALL TRADES"

£21,000 A.A.E.

Are you looking for an adminstrative role with only 15% secretarial? If so this small organisation with elegant offices in Mayfair might be ideal. Windows 95, Excel + typ 55 wpm. Aged mid 20's-30's.

Norma Skemp Rec Ltd:
0171 222 5091.

MARKETING - AN EXCLUSIVE RANGE

£20,000 NEG.

A sec/assistant is required to make up this team of 3. An exciting role which will combine variety and involvement. This Company deals in exclusive products that are becoming world famous. It would suit someone bright, on the ball and with a friendly personality. Good speech and presentation a must for Client contact. Age 21-35./60 wpm typ. Microsoft.

Ring Anderson Hoare
0171 824 8821.

From Russia with Love... to the Man with the Golden Gun! Interested in Personnel?

Intriguing risk management consultancy operating on an Int'l basis require a Pro-active, highly organised Ass't to help their busy Personnel Dept in the recruitment of all staff. Ideally, you will have good secretarial experience gained in your first job and a flair for Admin - an eye for detail is a must along with initiative and drive for this 'baptism of fire'! For Your Eyes Only...? 50wpm, W4W, Salary to £16,500.

Call Anderson Hoare
(rec) 0171 824 8821

LEGAL Sec/PA for elite property co. to assist their in-house solicitor who handles all legal matters. This position offers scope, variety + beautiful offices. £20,000, bonus + bens. 0171 493 2888 Heritage Recruitment.

OIL Co, £18,000 + superb benefits. Love variety? Great offices! and a good PA role - loads of liaison and organising for the Admin/IT manager. 0171 493 7001, SECRETARIES PLUS, the secretarial consultants.

P.A./ Graduate in Business with extensive knowledge of Excel & Windows. Fluent French. Free to travel for long durations and spend summer in South of France. A knowledge and interest in city trading essential. Fabulous opportunity. £20-25K T.J. Office 0171 838 0023

PA/ Secretary - Fluent French with Powerpoint and excellent secretarial skills. £20,000. To find out more call Caroline Butcher 0171 499 5881 Adecco Elite Rec Cons.

PART-TIME secretary, £20,000 pro rata. Enthusiastic individual required to work 2 days a week at this City Investment company. Supporting two sales guys you will provide full support and get involved in organising seminars. Ideal opportunity for someone who enjoys working in a busy environment and likes variety. Skills: 50wpm/W4W/Excel. Hours: 9-6.30pm. Please telephone Vanessa Mitchell on 0171 390 7000. Crone Corkill Rec Cons.

£20,000 Pd Travel & Bens. Working for the Finance Director of this major international drinks company, you will be providing full secretarial & departmental admin support & using powerpoint for presentation & bi-annual business plans. Ideally, you will enjoy working with figures, have very good organisational & communication skills & enjoy being a focal figure in the dept. 60+ typing. The Recruitment Company 0171 831 1220

£18,000 Pd Travel & Bens Marketing. An exciting opportunity for a young secretary to become part of this well known multinational drinks company. Looking after a team of busy young executives, you will enjoy being involved in a fast-moving environment & being relied on for your secretarial & admin skills as well as your ability to use Powerpoint for presentations. 50+ typing The Recruitment Company 0171 831 1220.

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required

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£18k per annum

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LETTINGS DEPARTMENT
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Letter and full CV to:
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No Agencies, no telephone calls please

EC rule not apt for citizen's spouse in UK

Sahota v Secretary of State for the Home Department
Zeghraba v Same

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Judge

[Judgment April 23]

A person who was not a citizen of a member state of the European Community but was married to a British citizen, was not entitled under Community law to the same rights of residence in the United Kingdom as those enjoyed by his spouse under UK law when they returned to live and work in the United Kingdom.

The rights under Community law were not to be elided or amalgamated with those which arose under domestic law within the territory of member states for their own nationals and spouses. National law continued to distinguish between British citizens with a right of abode and citizens of the Community exercising Community rights.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department against a decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal dated May 8, 1996 that Sarabjit Singh Sahota was entitled to indefinite leave to remain in the UK, and dismissing an appeal by Mohammed Zeghraba against the dismissal by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal dated June 7, 1996 of his appeal against the Home Secretary's refusal of indefinite leave to remain in the UK.

Article 4.4 of Council Directive of October 15, 1968 on the abolition of restrictions on movement and residence within the Community for workers of member states and *their families* (68/360/EEC) (OJ Special English Edition 1968 (II) p485) as last amended by Dec 95/1/EC (OJ 1995 L1/1) provides:

"A member of the family who is not a national of a member state shall be issued with a residence document which shall have the same validity as that issued to the worker on whom he is dependent."

Mr Richard Plender, QC, for the secretary of state; Mr Peter Duffy for Mr Sahota and Mr Zeghraba.

LORD JUSTICE JUDGE said that Amarjit Kaur Sahota and Maria Zeghraba, the wives of the two applicants, were British citizens with right of abode in the UK *and citizens* of the European Community.

In 1989 Mrs Sahota went to live in Germany exercising her rights under article 48 the EC Treaty. In 1990, when she married her husband, an Indian citizen, they were both lawfully resident and working in Germany.

Mr and Mrs Sahota returned to the UK in April 1994. He had no entry clearance and was given leave to enter as a visitor for six months with a prohibition against taking employment.

In August he applied for indefinite leave to remain on the basis that his wife was exercising her European Community rights. The application was refused and instead he was issued with a residence document valid until November 1999 with no limitations against taking employment in the United Kingdom.

The adjudicator refused Mr Sahota's appeal but the Immigration Appeal Tribunal allowed the appeal.

Mr Zeghraba, an Algerian citizen, had an unclear and chequered history of visits to the UK. In July 1991 he was arrested by the immigration authorities and claimed untruthfully that he was married to an Irish citizen.

He was returned to Algeria but came back to the UK using a false passport. In June 1992 he married in the UK under Islamic law and in August was again removed to Algeria.

His wife went with him and their marriage *was registered in* November 1992 but he was refused entry clearance to return to the UK on the basis that the marriage might have been entered into for the primary purpose of achieving entry to the UK.

Having re-entered the UK in circumstances which remained obscure Mr and Mrs Zeghraba moved to the Irish Republic. They *returned to the UK in January 1994* and she started working.

He then applied for indefinite leave to remain in the UK as the husband of an EC worker exercising her right of free movement.

The application was refused and his appeals to the adjudicator and to the Immigration Appeal Tribunal failed.

Mr Plender insisted that the *national scheme* and the Community provisions were two distinct schemes rather than a single scheme combining the features of both national and Community law.

Mr Duffy submitted that article 4.4 provided the appellants with an entitlement to exactly the same rights as those enjoyed by their spouses, which represented an amalgam of those provided by *Community and national law.*

His Lordship said that each national of every member state was a Community citizen entitled to move freely, and to reside and work wherever he wished in the Community. That fundamental right was secured by a series of measures.

Unless normal family life could be enjoyed by each citizen wherever he was living in the Community the principle of free movement would be seriously undermined. Accordingly non-working spouses, whether or not themselves nationals of any member state, were entitled to accompany their spouses.

As the recitals showed, the purpose of Directive 68/360 was to ensure that the arrangements for workers in other member states, together with their accompanying families, should be brought into line with those which applied to nationals of the state in which they were working.

Nothing in the recitals suggested that the Directive was expressly concerned *with the rights and* entitlements of workers while they were working in the member states of which they were nationals.

Article 4.4 was critical to the success of the applicants' cases. Directly enforceable rights were created irrespective whether or not the appropriate residence document had been issued.

It was concerned with the position of family members, including the accompanying spouse, who was not a national of a member state, and the entitlement of such spouses to reside in the member state of which the working spouse was not a national and to be provided with appropriate documents granting similar permission to reside as the residence permit granted to the working spouse.

Entry documents were not in *contemplation* in article 4.4. Throughout the directive, documents for effecting entry, passports, identity cards and so on, and those required for residence purposes, permits or residence documents, were distinguished in accordance with their function.

As the applicants' claims were based on Community law it was unnecessary to investigate domestic law in detail. The right of abode enjoyed by *Mrs Sahota and Mrs* Zeghraba exempted them from the general provisions for regulation and control of their entry or re-entry to the UK. They were entitled to live here and to return if they had travelled or lived and worked abroad. They could not be deported.

However, their spouses did not on marriage automatically become entitled to identical rights. For example their entry into the UK was subject to immigration control and in certain circumstances an order for their deportation could be made.

Mr Duffy said the applicants were entitled to indefinite leave to remain in the UK, an unlimited right to reside, as a matter of Community law. His Lordship said that was not an entitlement envisaged by any relevant Community regulation or directive, and would not be immediately available to every citizen of the Community entering the UK nor indeed for his spouse.

The privilege would be confined to British citizens and their spouses. If Mr Duffy's argument were correct it would follow that the entitlement available to nationals of any other member state and their spouses would as a matter of Community law, and in particular article 4.4 be different and more restricted than those available to the applicants.

In his Lordship's judgment that would involve discriminatory distinction in Community law against citizens of member states other than the UK by granting a privilege in the UK to UK citizens not enjoyed by other citizens of *member states entering* the UK in exercise of identical rights of free movement. Such discriminatory consequences were unacceptable in Community law.

Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith agreed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Edward McCourt & Co, Watford.

Employer liable for failing to check drivers' records

Wing v Nuttall

Before Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment April 15]

An employer who failed to make checks on the tachograph charts in order to confirm that drivers were complying with the relevant legal requirements was guilty of such reckless behaviour that knowledge of the contraventions would be implied.

Because article 15 of Council Regulation EEC/3820/85, of December 20, 1985 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport (OJ 1985 L370 p6) referred to article 14 of Council Regulation EEC/3821/85, of December 20, 1985 on recording equipment in road transport (OJ 1985 L370 p10) they should be read together, thus imposing a duty on employers to check the tachograph charts from time to time for compliance.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an appeal by case stated by the Department of Transport Vehicle Inspectorate from the acquittal by Leyland Justices on June 4, 1996, of the defendant, Shane Raymond Nuttall, trading as Redline *Coaches, of charges under section* 96(11A) of the Transport Act 1968, as inserted by section 4 of and paragraph 9(2)(a) of Schedule 4 to the European Communities Act 1972 and amended by section 2(1)(c), (e) and (f) the Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages and Hours of Work) Act 1976, and regulation 2 of the Community Drivers' Hours and Recording Equipment Regulations (SI 1986 No 1457).

Mr Paul O'Brien for the prosecution; Mr Mark Laprell for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that coach drivers employed by the defendant had been driving longer hours than permitted by the regulations. They did keep records of their journeys by way of tachograph charts which were returned to the employer and which would, if examined, have revealed the breaches.

However, the employer had never examined the tachographs, and the prosecution submitted that that failure was a reckless "shutting of the eyes" bordering on negligence which was sufficient to amount to implied knowledge.

The defendant had contended that article 14 of Council Regulation EEC/3821/85 did not impose a duty to examine the charts, merely to keep them for 12 months so that they could be examined by the authorities on request.

He argued that in the absence of any evidence that breaches were occurring, there was no reason why the employer should check the tachograph charts so that failure to do so could not amount to implied knowledge acquired through reckless behaviour.

His Lordship said that article 15 of Council Regulation EEC/3820/85, which required periodic checks to ensure compliance with all the provisions, referred to both EEC/3820/85, on drivers' hours, and EEC/3821/85, on tachographs. That meant the regulations should be read together so that periodic checks on the tachograph charts were required. Drivers were well known to exceed permitted hours; the employer's failure to check the charts did amounted to a reckless "shutting of the eyes" to what was occurring.

Accordingly the matter would be remitted to the justices with a direction to convict.

Lord Justice McCowan agreed.

Solicitors: Dooley & Co, Liverpool; Backhouses, Blackburn.

Two sentences to count as one

Regina v Governor of Swaledale Prison, Ex parte Francois

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Curtis

[Judgment March 26]

Where a person had been sentenced on different occasions to terms of imprisonment that were ordered to run consecutively they were to be counted as a single term for calculating the date of his release on licence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in refusing the application of France Louis Francois for judicial review by way of a declaration that he should be *released from prison on January* 30, 1997 rather than in accordance with the prison service's decision that he should be released on May 6, 1997.

The applicant had received sentences from different courts which were consecutive. The prison authorities treated that as creating single term which was of sufficient length to make him a long-term prisoner whose right to release on licence arose after serving two-thirds of his sentence. He would otherwise have been a short-term prisoner with a right to release after serving half his sentence.

Mr Robin Allen, QC and Mr Martin Soorjoo for the applicant; Mr Stephen Richards and Mr Steven Kovats for the prison authorities.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that in *R v Governor of Brockhill Prison, Ex parte Evans* ([1997] 2 WLR 236, 250) it was clearly spelt out that where a consecutive sentence had been imposed on a different occasion, it gave rise to a single term. Counsel for the applicant submitted that was obiter.

His Lordship had not the least doubt that *Ex parte Evans* did decide the present case. That passage could be shown on analysis to constitute part of the ratio decidendi. When sentencing a serving prisoner sentencers had to recognise the possible impact of the previous sentence upon the fresh one.

Mr Justice Curtis agreed.

Solicitors: Breeze Benton & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Court cannot validate action ended by dissolution

In re Philip Powis Ltd

Before Sir John Knox

[Judgment April 25]

Where a company was dissolved all proceedings by or against it came to a permanent end. The court had no jurisdiction, when making an order under section 651 *of the Companies Act 1985, to undo* the abatement of an action started before the company's dissolution by adding terms validating such proceedings.

Sir John Knox, sitting as a judge of the High Court, so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division declining to make an order under section 651 of the 1985 Act, as amended by section 141 of the Companies Act 1989, on the application of Robert Harrison, a potential creditor of the company. Sun Alliance, the insurers of the company, opposed the application.

Mr Andrew de la Rosa for the company; Mr Philip Flower for Sun Alliance.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Mr Harrison was a former employee of the company who had sustained a back injury in the course of his employment. On February 25, 1988, just three days before the end of the limitation period of three years from the date of the accident, he issued his writ claiming damages for personal injuries against the company.

The company's insurers, Sun Alliance, paid £5,000 into court on May 14, 1993. The company went into voluntary liquidation on March 13, 1995 and was dissolved on September 7, 1995, being fully solvent when it was dissolved.

Section 651 of the 1985 Act, as amended, provides:

"(1) Where a company has been dissolved, the court may . . . make an order, on such terms as the court thinks fit, declaring the dissolution to have been void.

"(2) Thereupon such proceedings may be taken as might have been *taken if the company had not been* dissolved".

It was settled as a result of *Morris v Harris* ([1927] AC 252) that an order declaring the dissolution of a company to have been void, did not affect the invalidity of proceedings initiated during the interval between the dissolution and its avoidance.

But the question here was whether the court had jurisdiction *to validate proceedings* which had been started before the company's dissolution. His Lordship reached the conclusion that there was no such jurisdiction.

He analysed *Morris v Harris* and also *Foster Yates & Thom Ltd v H. W. Edgehill Equipment Ltd* ((1978) 122 Sol J 860; CA Transcript No 800 of 1978), a decision of the Court of Appeal was binding on him.

It was clear that when a corporate body was dissolved all proceedings in relation to it came to a permanent end; they did not just go into abeyance.

Mr de la Rosa sought to use the words of the section "on such terms as the court thinks fit" to get round that obstacle. But a subsequent court order could not undo something that had already happened.

Explicit legislative authority would be needed to allow the court subsequently to restore to life that which had come to a permanent end and to validate actions by and against the company notwithstanding the dissolution. Nor did *In re Townreach Ltd* ([1995] Ch 28) decide the contrary.

Accordingly, the court had no jurisdiction to undo the abatement of Mr Harrison's action that occurred *when the company was* dissolved.

The second issue was whether the court should exercise its jurisdiction to declare the company's dissolution void and restore the company to the register so as to allow new proceedings to be begun against it.

Such a new action would now be prima facie time-barred. His Lordship considered section 33 of the Limitation Act 1980, *Walkley v Precison Forgings Ltd* ([1979] 1 WLR 606) and *In re Workvale (No 2)* ([1991] BCLC 531) and decided in all the circumstances not to exercise his discretion so as to exclude the time limit.

Accordingly his Lordship refused to declare that the dissolution of the company on September 7, 1995 was void or that Mr Harrison's action commenced on February 25 1988 should be deemed to be valid and continuing in existence.

Solicitors: Jonathan Hatton, Daventry; Ironsides Ray & Vials, Northampton.

VAT payable on full price of discounted goods

Rosgill Group Ltd v Commissioners of Customs and Excise

Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Morritt

[Judgment April 23]

In a "party-plan" sale where the hostess could buy goods at a discounted price in consideration for the services she provided in holding the party, value-added tax was chargeable on the full listed price of the goods rather than the discounted price.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Rosgill Group Ltd, from the dismissal by the Manchester Value Added Tax and Duties Tribunal on April 24, 1995 of their appeal from the Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

Section 10 of the Value Added Tax Act 1983 provides: "(2) If the supply is for a consideration in money its value shall be taken to be such amount as, with the addition of the tax chargeable, is equal to the consideration.

"(3) If the supply is for a consideration not consisting or not wholly consisting of money its value shall be taken to be such amount in money as, with the addition of the tax chargeable, is equivalent to the consideration."

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Hugh McKay for Rosgill; Mr Stephen Richards for the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that at a party held in the home of Mrs Leaver, orders for *clothing to be supplied* by Rosgill at an aggregate price of £66.98 were placed by those present.

As the hostess Mrs Leaver thereby became entitled to either a cash commission of £2.89 or a discount of £7.23 off the list prices for clothing offered for sale.

She chose the discount and ordered a blouse for which the list price was £27.99. She was invoiced for £27.99, credited with £7.23 and required to pay the balance of £20.76. It was agreed that the cost of the blouse to Rosgill was £8.

Rosgill contended that the only consideration for the blouse was £20.76 and that VAT was payable only on that sum. The commissioners contended that the consideration for the blouse included the services supplied by Mrs Leaver in holding the party in her home and that the value of those services was the amount of the discount she chose, namely £7.23 and that VAT was payable on the total, £27.99.

It was common ground that decisions of the European Court of Justice established that the word "consideration" had to be approached as a matter of European law, namely whether there was a direct link between the relevant supply and that which was alleged to be consideration for it.

Such consideration had to be capable of being expressed in money and was to be assessed at its subjective value, that was its value to the recipient rather than by reference to objective criteria: see article 11 of the European Community Sixth Council Directive (77/388/EEC) (OJ 1977 L145/1) and Case No 154/80 *Staatssecretaris van Financiën v Coöperatieve Aardappelenbewaarplaats GA* ([1981] ECR 445).

Rosgill submitted that there was no direct link between the services of Mrs Leaver in holding the party and the supply of the blouse to her because, although she could not have been entitled to any commission or discount but for holding the party, the amount of the commission or discount depended entirely on how much, if anything, was bought at the party.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. It was correct that there had to be a direct link but that requirement did not exclude the possibility that other links were necessary as well. That point was clearly made by the European Court of Justice in Case No C-33/93 *Empire Stores Ltd v Commissioners of Customs and Excise* ([1994] STC 623).

That case concerned the provision of a free gift to anyone who introduced a new customer who bought something from the store's mail-order catalogue.

It was true that Mrs Leaver's commission or discount depended on whether anything and how much was bought by the other customers whereas in *Empire Stores* the value of the free gift was *not similarly variable. But the existence* of a further condition as to value was no ground for distinguishing *Empire Stores.* It was clear that there was a direct link between the supply of the blouse, the services of Mrs Leaver and her entitlement to the commission or discount.

Accordingly, the question arose whether the consideration was capable of being assessed in money and if so at how much. Rosgill submitted that as the blouse, for which Mrs Leaver paid £20.76 in cash, only cost Rosgill £8, the services which she supplied cost Rosgill nothing.

His Lordship considered paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of *Empire Stores* and Case No 230/87 *Naturally Yours Cosmetics Ltd v Customs and Excise Commissioners* ([1988] ECR 6365) and held that as in *the present* case the parties had attributed a value to the consideration for the services the cost of the blouse to Rosgill was immaterial.

The services were part of the consideration for the blouse and the parties attributed values to those services. The question was which of those two values should be taken.

Rosgill contended that the only value which could be taken was the cash sum Rosgill was prepared to pay, namely £2.89. His Lordship did not agree.

That was not the value the parties put on the services in the events which happened, namely the choice by Mrs Leaver of a discount off the price of the blouse she wanted to buy rather than the payment of a cash commission.

To take as the measure of value of the services the amount attributed to an alternative which was not chosen would not only fail properly to apply the principle expressed in *Naturally Yours Cosmetics* but would provide too ready a means for the artificial reduction of the value of the consideration.

The commercial substance of the agreement between Mrs Leaver and *Rosgill was that she* would be remunerated for her services in holding the party in her home in one of two alternative ways to be quantified by the application of a formula to the value of the goods bought by those attending.

One alternative, the cash commission, would have no VAT consequences. The other did because the blouse was supplied in consideration of the payment of £20.76 in cash and the remuneration for Mrs Leaver's services quantified by the appropriate formula at £7.23. VAT was chargeable on £27.99.

The Vice-Chancellor and Lord Justice Hobhouse delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Shakespeares, Birmingham; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Discretionary remedy not a judgment on merits

Mullen v Conoco Ltd

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment April 23]

The refusal by a deputy High Court master of a defendant's application to set aside a default judgment was an exercise of discretion and was a decision whether to grant a discretionary remedy. As such it was not a determination of the issues so as to found a plea of *res judicata* by the plaintiff in a subsequent counterclaim.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Michael Mullen, from a decision of Judge Urquhart in Southport County Court on November 3, 1995 striking out with costs his claim against Conoco Ltd on the ground that its substance had already been decided in previous proceedings brought by Conoco against Mr Mullen.

Mr Colin Challenger for the plaintiff; Mr Geoffrey Gelbart for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said Conoco had obtained summary judgment in default against Mr Mullen in March 1994 in proceedings for unpaid petrol bills. In February 1995 Mr Mullen had sought unsuccessfully to have the *judgment set aside under Order 13,* rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

He had then brought proceedings against Conoco claiming that their contract with him was so unfair and one-sided as to be unenforceable.

Conoco had applied to have those proceedings struck out as an abuse of process on the ground *that the issues had already* been decided at the hearing of the Order 13 application. The district judge had allowed the application in part and Judge Urquhart on appeal had ordered that Mr Mullen's entire claim be struck out.

The issue on appeal was whether Mr Mullen was debarred from bringing his action by the previous decision. He would be barred if the same issues had been decided or if the issues could and should have been raised and it would be wrong to allow him to raise them now.

His Lordship noted that the court's power to set aside a default judgment under Order 13, rule 9 was discretionary. If the court's power was exercised on a discretionary basis, such as delay, then it was difficult to say that any issue had been decided by the court's ruling.

The circumstances in which an interlocutory ruling could give rise to an estoppel were always problematic. It might be a sine qua non of the power to set aside that it should be shown that the defendant had a prospect of success but the decision itself might be based at least partially on discretionary matters.

There might be cases under Order 13, rule 9 where a decision was so clear as to give rise to legal or discretionary grounds for barring a future action. His Lordship found the possibility difficult to *imagine.*

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that a decision under Order 13, rule 9 was not a determination of issues. It was merely the exercise of a discretion and a decision *whether or not to grant a discretionary remedy.*

It was not of the same character as a decision on summary judgment under Order 14.

Lord Justice Hutchison delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Nyland & Beattie, Widnes; Braby & Waller.

When legal aid is required

Regina v Gravesham Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Baker

It was in the interests of justice that a defendant who admitted driving with excess alcohol should have legal aid when arguing that she had a special reason not to be disqualified because her drink had been laced.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Popplewell) so held on April 16, allowing an application by Tracy Baker for judicial review of Gravesham Magistrates' Court's refusal on July 22, 1996, to grant legal aid to instruct an expert *and for representation.*

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN said that the applicant had raised no defence to driving with excess alcohol, contrary to section 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, but wished to argue that she had a special reason not to be *disqualified as her* drink had been laced.

It seemed to his Lordship that in most such cases an expert witness was required to give an opinion on whether the applicant would still have been over the limit if her drink *had* not been laced. The justices had said that an order could be made for payment out of central funds but that assumed that an expert would be happy to advise on a speculative basis.

If unrepresented, the applicant would need to find witnesses to the *lacing of the drink* and examine them in court herself, which would not be easy. It would not only be to the benefit of the applicant, but to the benefit of the court if legal aid were granted.

Consent not required for binding over

Regina v Lincoln Crown Court, Ex parte Jude (David Andrew)

Before Lord Justice Auld and Mr Justice Brian Smedley

[Judgment April 17]

When a court intended to make a binding over order against a person in circumstances which required that he be given an opportunity to make representations about it, the court was not also required to seek that person's consent before making the order.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment when considering an application for judicial review of the order of Judge Benson at Lincoln Crown Court binding the applicant over in the sum of £500. The application was granted on a different ground.

The applicant had appeared before the judge on a charge of affray to which he had pleaded not guilty. Owing to the unavailability of certain prosecution witnesses the trial could not take place.

The judge ordered the indictment to lie on the file, and indicated that he proposed to bind over the applicant to keep the peace.

He gave the applicant's counsel an opportunity to make submissions on the applicant's behalf but did not seek the applicant's consent to the order.

The applicant sought judicial review of the order on the ground, inter alia, that the judge's order required the applicant's consent, and he did not give it.

Mr Richard Clayton for the applicant; the respondent did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE AULD said that in making binding over orders, the courts had appeared, until the case of *R v South Molton Justices, Ex parte Ankerson* ([1989] 1 WLR 40) to confine the role of consent to that of relieving the court of the obligation to hear and determine the information or complaint before it and/or of its obligation, which existed only in certain circumstances, to provide the person concerned with an opportunity to make representations against it.

However, in *Ankerson*, the Divisional Court had held, seemingly as a generality, that consent was one of several cumulative prerequisites of a binding over order.

His Lordship set out the circum*stances of that case and quoted* from the judgments of Mr Justice McCowan and *Lord Justice Taylor*, both of which stated in terms that the consent of the defendant to a bindover order must be obtained.

His Lordship said that neither the Justices of the Peace Act of 1361 nor of 1968, from which the power to make a binding over order derived, said anything about consent.

It was difficult to identify any logical basis for effectively removing the court's 1361 power to require persons to keep the peace in an otherwise appropriate case by making its exercise conditional on the person concerned's consent.

It was equally difficult to see any sensible basis for combining such a condition with the undoubted obligation which existed in certain circumstances to provide the person with an opportunity to make representations against the order. If his consent were required there would be no point in providing him with that opportunity.

It was not apparent from the report of *Ankerson* whether counsel for the justices had argued that consent, if given, was not an additional requirement to that of giving the defendants an opportunity to be heard but an alternative *to it.*

His Lordship said that if the court in that case had been referred to *R v Woking Justices, Ex parte Gossage* ([1973] 1 QB 448), and had had to consider the issue of consent in the sharper focus that it had been given in the present case, he believed that Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice McCowan would not have expressed themselves in such general terms.

First, they would have acknowledged that the case before them was an untypical bindover of defendants and that normally the law did not require defendants to give consent or be warned; and second, they would have spoken of consent and warning disjunctively rather than conjunctively as requirements for an order in such an untypical defendant case and generally *for complainants* and witnesses.

That was how his Lordship considered the law to be and his Lordship respectfully disagreed with the judgments in *Ankerson* to the extent that they suggested the contrary.

Mr Justice Brian Smedley agreed.

Solicitors: Andrew Jay & Co, Gainsborough.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Eugenie O'Hana Deceased
PURSUANT to the Trustee Act, 1925, section 27.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of EUGENIE O'HANA late of 9 South Bolton Gardens Chelsea London SW5 who died on the Twenty-Fifth day of February 1997, are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims or interests to us, the undersigned, as Solicitors to the Executor, GORDON ANTHONY YABLON, before the Twenty-Fourth day of June 1997. And Notice is Hereby Given, that at the expiration of that time the Executor GORDON ANTHONY YABLON will proceed to distribute the Estate of the said Testatrix among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and interests of which the Executor shall then have had notice; and that the Executor will not as respects the property so distributed, be liable to any person or persons of whose claim the Executor shall not then have had notice.

Dated this Twenty-Fourth day of April 1997
Eversheds
Senator House
85 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4JL
Solicitors to the Executor

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Journey of a Lifetime Trust (JOLT) - 326577
Scheme to amend the objects
Reference: TG/56116G1/CD(Ldn)

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Charity Commission, St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LONDON ORPHAN SCHOOL
AND
ROYAL BRITISH ORPHAN SCHOOL

The Annual General Court of the Schools will be held at Reed's School, Cobham, at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 21 May 1997 to receive the Annual Report, to approve the accounts and to transact any other formal business. Subscribers who wish to attend may obtain tickets from The Secretary, Reed's School, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2ES (Tel: Cobham 01932-868680)

MANCHESTER UNITY
LIFE INSURANCE COLLECTING SOCIETY

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held in THE HEWISON HALL, BRIGHTON CONFERENCE CENTRE on Monday 26 May 1997 at 1.00pm

AGENDA

Notice convening the Meeting, Minutes of Annual General Meeting 1996, Report of Committee of Management, Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report 1996, Appointment of Auditors, Appointment of Trustees, Re-appointment of Arbitrators, Any other business of which notice has been given.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 0925 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
BRISTOL DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF AVIMO LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 16th April 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £19,207,000.00 to £8,494,000.00.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Weeks at the Companies Court, Bristol on 22nd day of May 1997.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated 25th April 1997
Bevan Ashford
41 St James Street
TAUNTON
Somerset
TA1 1JR
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Virginia Four
(Formerly trading as News EyeQ)
(In Members Voluntary Liquidation)

In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, Edward John Wacey of Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, give notice that on 17 April 1997 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 22 May 1997 to send in their full names, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Edward John Wacey of 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.

Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.

Dated: 25 April 1997
E J Wacey, Liquidator

KWIKSHIPT DESPATCH LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Wednesday 7th May 1997 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.

DATED THIS 24TH APRIL 1997
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D J LUPTON, DIRECTOR

No 01345 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Chancery Division
Companies Court
In the Matter of Cobra Sports Limited
and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1985
ADVERTISEMENT OF REGISTRATION OF ORDER
& MINUTE FOR REDUCTION OF CAPITAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the capital of Cobra Sports Limited was by virtue of a Special Resolution and with the sanction of an Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 16th April 1997 reduced from £7,000,000.00 divided into 2,000,000 preference shares of £1.00 each and 50,000,000 ordinary shares of 10p each to £3,250,000.00 divided into 25,000,000 ordinary shares of 13p each. At the date of the registration of this Minute all of the said shares have been issued and are deemed to be fully paid-up.

Dated this 28th day of April 1997
Stevens Drake Solicitors
117/119 High Street
Crawley West Sussex
Ref: CMC

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, SULAYMAN CHAM now residing at 8, Bythorn Street, Brixton, London, S.W.9. 8AQ, having during the last six months carried on the trade or calling of Proprietor do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply at the Transfer Session for the said District to be held at Thames Magistrates Court, 59, Bow Road, Bow, London, E3, on the 19th day of May, 1997 at 10 o'clock for the grant to me of a Justices Licence authorising me to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption on the premises known as Gate 28, Toynbee Studio and situate at Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street, London, E1, and it is my intention to apply to the justices to insert in such Justices Licence the conditions required for it to be granted as a Restaurant Licence.

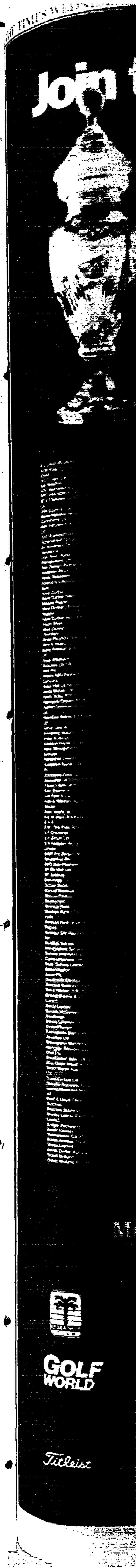
Dated this 24th day of April 1997
T. V. Edwards
Authorised Agents for the Applicant

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY
& PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878 OR FAX:0171-481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.



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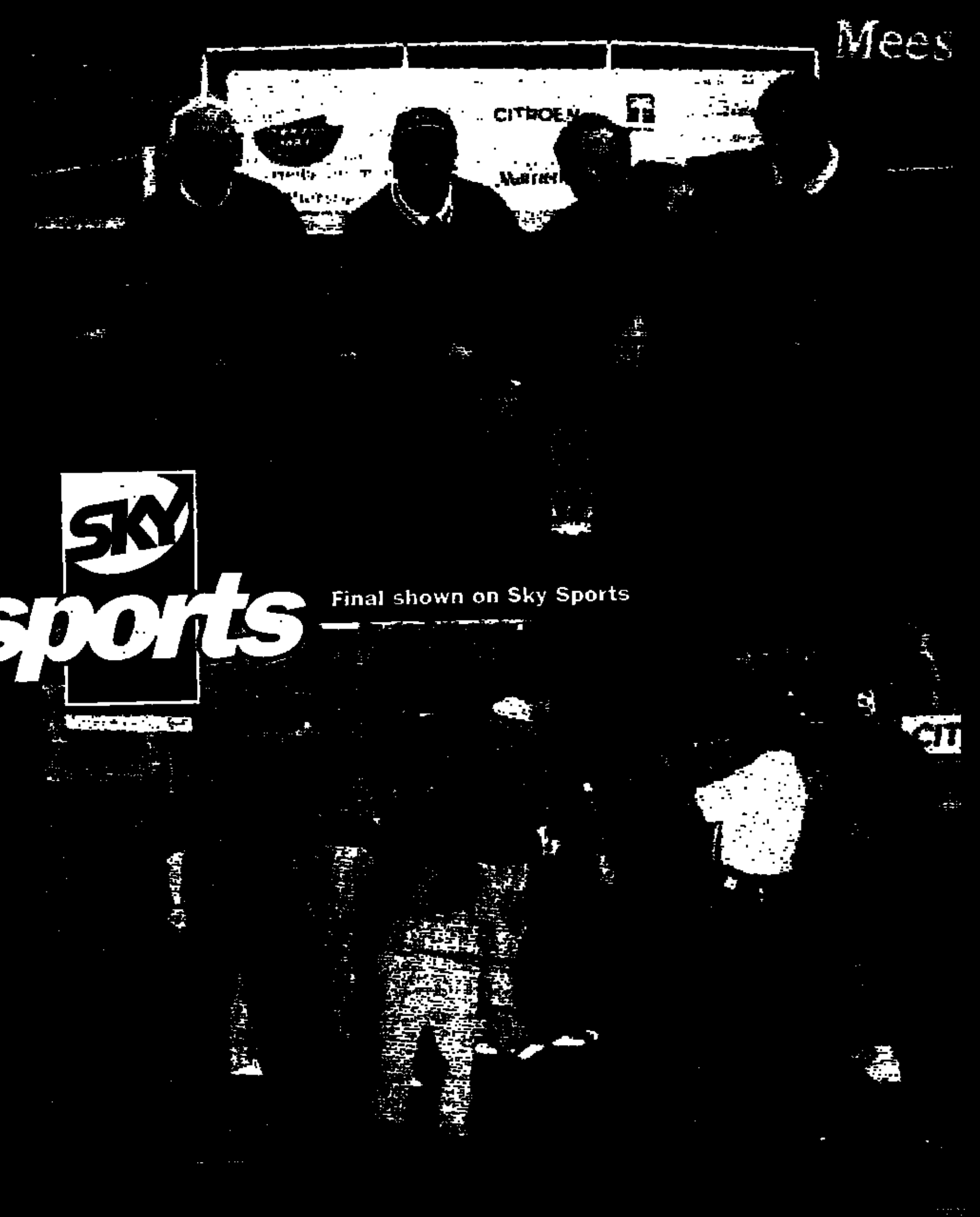

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NORTH OF THE THAMES

BAKER STREET Chiltern Crt. 3 bed flat. 5th floor, lift, porter, £260,000. 0171 724 9919

BARGAINS. Repossessions and Reduced for quick sale props. Capital Property Lists. 7 days 10am-10pm 0171 833 1104.

BLOMFIELD VILLAS W2 Delightful 3 bedroom on 2nd floor of period property. £185,000 Casa & Co 0171 286 5757.

CLEVELAND SQUARE W2. A 4 bed 3 bath Town house in immac cond. with secure u/g grd pkg. access to flat roof and private gdn sq. £425,000. Granvilles 0171 221 4935.

COLEHILL LANE, SW6. A 4 bedroom, family house with entertaining space. The dining room leads onto a south facing patio garden. Bathroom, reception room, dining room, kitchen. F/H, £270,000. Sullivan Thomas 0171 731 3333.

DELANCEY ST NW1. 2 bed mais, sth facing roof terrace. F/H £175,000. 0171 388 9394

HARROW ROAD W10 1 bed flat in good condition with outside terrace. £70,000 Casa & Co 0171 286 5757.

HYDE PARK GARDENS Grand 2000 sq ft apartment on 4th and 5th floors, double recep, 4 bedrms, 3 bathrms, £595,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344.

INGLETHORPE STREET, SW6. A pretty 2 double bedroom flat. The kitchen/breakfast room leads to a shared 40ft south facing garden. Bathroom, reception room. L/H, £160,000. Sullivan Thomas 0171 731 3333.

TATES

FITZGEORGE AVENUE, W14
2 dbl bed grd floor Victorian mansion flat having a southerly aspect with high ceilings, stripped wood floors & large dining hall.
£197,500 LH

BRAMBER ROAD, W14
3 storey unmodernised FH, development opportunity. currently 2 units.
£297,500 o.n.o.

FITZGEORGE AVENUE, W14
1st floor bright & sunny. 4 bedroom period mansion flat with balconies.
£320,000. Long L/H

KENSINGTON HIGH STREET, W14
At the western end, a 2 bed 1st floor p/b with RT in need of updating.
£197,000 L/H.

CROMWELL CRESCENT, SW5
Currently undergoing complete refurbishment 2 x 2 bed conversions, one with garden.
£185,000 & £235,000. LH.

Tel: 0171 602 6020
Fax: 0171 602 9522

LAMBROOK TERRACE, SW6. An attractive purpose built 2 bedroom Victorian flat with its own private entrance. The kitchen/breakfast room leads to a private patio garden. Bathroom, reception room. L/H £165,000. Sullivan Thomas 0171 731 3333.

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 0171 289 1692

MAIDA VALE Modern 1 bed flat in Mansion Block. GCH. FF Kit. S F/H. £112K. 0171 266 2626

MALVERN MEWS W9 Nearly built 2 bed mews hse £120,000 Casa & Co 0171 286 5757

MARBLE ARCH Bryanston Ct, 3 bd, 2 bth, study, clkrm, 24 hr port. £359,500. 0171 724 9919

NW6 (Brondesbury Park) A wonderful 4 bed 3 bath semi det period family home. Extensively refurbed. Sunny south facing gdn. Off street parking. Too many features to list. £375,000 Freehold 0171 586 5999 or 0468 410 786.

PIMLICO St Georges Square. Large 2 dble bed mais, 2 ensuite baths, magnificent 32ft recep, flat roof. Lease 87yrs. £350,000. Tel: 0171 828 4293.

RESIDENTIAL Investment Portfolio. 12 Freehold units grossing approx £375,000 pa. N7/N19 areas 0181 340 5070 Ref JM.

SIMON HALL Macroom Rd W9. Delightful 2 bedroom 2 reception house converted from old church hall. £145,000 Casa & Co 0171 286 5757

PIMLICO

St Georges Square SW1
Delightful, peaceful sunny 1st floor apartment on 3 levels. Dble balc. Beautiful view over centre sq. gdns & fountain. Reception, hall, kitchen, 2 beds, 2 baths, 3 mins tube. S/charge £1000 pa. Lease 103yrs.
£345,000
Ph. owners on 01708 454526.

HADLEY WOOD

Luxury house set in approx 1 acre, 8 bedrooms, 5 en suite, 6 receptions, gym, utility, games room, double garage. 24hr CCTV, video entry. 160ft frontage, electric gates. £1.3 million.
0171 247 6361.

REPOSSESSIONS
The Building Society Repossessions List.
1200+ flats and houses in London and the Home Counties
3 month subs £59+ pp
BSRL
0181 262 7788

WESTBOURNE TERRACE W2 Stunning 2 bed 2nd flr conversion, magnificent west facing recept with fireplace, 2 baths, £295,000 L/hold Westbourne Estates 0171 727 8612.

W1 Macready Hse. 2 bed, 2 bath, lift, porter, S.O.F. £265,000. Exec Homes 0171 724 9919

W2/W11 Urgent appeal to all vendors. We are selling more than we can replace. Please call Westways 0171 792 2167.

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

KENNINGTON SE11 Division bell area. Modern 3 bedroom town house in Award winning courtyard development, quiet, secure, garage. £145,000. Tel: Dr Fisher 0171 735 5222

BARNES

Imposing detached six bedroom period property extensively refurbished. Three elegant receptions, kitchen breakfast, two bathrooms, shower room, cloakroom, utility, garden, driveway with extensive parking.
O.I.E.O £800,000.
0181 563 8333.

Between the Commons

Thurleigh Road, SW12
An immaculate & recently modernised 5 bedroom house, retaining original features, in this quiet, leafy and sought-after road, 1 min Clap Comm. 4 mins tube. Master bedroom with en-suite bathroom, cot / dressing room, 4 further dbl bedrooms, study, bathroom, wc, laundry room, kitchen, drawing room, family room, dining room, cellar, gas, c/h, walled garden.
£495,000. 0171 223 1989.

DULWICH

Prestigious, delightful and soulful villa, built 1886 immaculate interior and exterior around 4000sq.ft. of flexible living space. ¼ acre terraced gardens surrounding the freehold property.
£535,000.
0181 693 2928.

SW12

Country Cottages, Western lane. Unique pair, 2 up 2 down. 1840's, seperated by 100' garden - apple, wisteria, veg., little lane in Wandsworth. So quiet you could hear a leaf drop yet short walk 3 tube/rlwy stns. Could be home&studio, or his&hers? Must see. Potential to extend. Sale together or seperately. £190,000 each.
Tel: Kinleigh 0171 228 2646.

WANDSWORTH TOWN

Large end of terrace maisonette, 2 double bedrooms + 1 bathroom + *1 e/s shower room*, large modern kitchen & large garden & garage.
£285,000.
Tel: 0181 8712780
0171 9290186

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

ST MARY'S GDNS SE11 3 bed house OIRO £220,000 F/H Daniel Smith Res. 0171 735 9510

SW15 Colinette Rd. Superb 1 bed conversion flat. £107,500. Cooney Duffey 0181 785 2229

CITY & WEST END

MARBLE ARCH W1 3 bed 2 bath 4th floor flat in modern pbb. Underground pkg. £250,000 Leasehold. Westbourne Estates 0171 727 8612.

SPITALFIELDS. Brand new 2 bed 2 bath. U/G parking. Private Terrace. Very High Spec. £189,500. Tel: 0171 629 5401.

NEW CITY PENTHOUSE

Between Tower Hill & Lloyds. Big reception, 4 beds, bathroom & shower room, 1,500 sqft, hardwood floors, lift.
Lease 999 years. £300,000.
* OPEN WEEKEND MAY 3RD-4TH *
APPTS 0171 487 5301
* £10,000 CASH BACK FOR EXCHANGE CONTRACTS BY MAY 31ST *

WESTBOURNE TERRACE W2

2 bed split level maisonette with 2 roof terraces. Unmodernised. Long lease. £189,950. No agents.

Phone 0181 348 5666

DOCKLANDS

WAREHOUSE CONVERSION

Shad Thames Area
1250 sq ft appt in shell condition in converted warehouse many original features. Building has day time porterage + swimming pool
£210,000 ono
Please contact
0171 231 5820 0850 622726

DOCKLAND ESTATES

Narrow Street E14
High quality 2 bedroom maisonette in a popular development. 2 balconies overlooking the river, lounge & dining room, garage + *parking space, secure development.*
Leasehold £230,000
Contact Simon Talbot
0171 790 7070.

FULHAM

HURLINGHAM REACH

Flat available in popular new development, SW facing over river & Hurlingham Club Gardens. Huge terrace. *2 beds / bathrooms. Recep. H/F Kit.* Cloak. Gge space. 15 mins Parsons Green St. June/July completion. Cash buyers. No agents. 999 yr lease. Best offer over £329,000 for quick sale.
Tel: 0171 7362378.
Fax 0171 3841775.

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For only *£139* including VAT you can place a display advertisement (4cms x 2 columns) in the Property Supplement on April 9th, giving you the opportunity to describe your home fully, a photograph can be included.
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FULHAM

CROOKHAM ROAD SW6. Quaint 2 double bedroom property, superb location. £142,500. Tel: 0171 610 6666.

FULHAM SW6. Two large converted flats in good decorative order throughout. Ground Floor Flat: Recep with side conservatory fully equipped kitchen, 2 double beds, bath, shower en-suite, sunny garden, cellar utility area. £185,000 leasehold. First Floor Flat: Large recep, kitchen breakfast room, master bed large en-suite, guest dble bed, bathroom. £189,950 Leasehold A.C.C. Property Consultants 01372 451173

FULHAM ROAD SW6. 2 spacious properties, 2/3 bedrooms. £200,000. Tel: 0171 610 6666.

STUNNING 3 bed house, 2 bath, conservatory, roof terrace. £269,000. 0171 386 8070

WELLINGTONS

FULHAM SW6
FREEHOLD HOUSES FOR SALE
Rigault Rd £365,000
Rowallan Rd £355,000
Langthorne St £365,000
Burnfoot Ave £339,500
Bronsart Rd £265,000
Racton Rd £259,950
Parsons Cross Rd £259,500
0171 731 4448.

HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

HIGHBURY

Exceptionally light attractive terrace family house 3/4 bedrooms, large sitting room, 2 baths, FF kitchen/diner including Conservatory, South facing garden, 2 roof terraces, excellent decorative order. Many original features, easy access shops & tube.
£279,000.
0171 226 7130

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

CHELSEA, Oakley St, SW3. Immac 1 bed flat, u/grnd pkg. Prestigious mod. port block. £160,000. L/H. 0171 603 4444

CHELSEA SW3 (Walton St) Bright, beaut dec 2 bed 1st flr flat. Long lease £310,000. Harrington Lowndes 0171 736 7272.

HOMESEARCH LONDON LTD. Let us search for you. London's No. 1 Specialist Search Company www.homesearch.co.uk/hom 0171 838 1066. Fax 838 1077

KENSINGTON, W8. Modern 3 bed house, kitchen/diner, off-street parking, 24 hr porter. £235,000. L/H. 0171 603 4444

SOUTH KEN, Campbell Crt, SW7. Immac 2 bed 1 bath, 1 WC flat. Gdn view. 24hr port, lift, Balc £270,000. L/H. 0171 603 4444

SW7 well loc cl tube & park 1 bd flt, 6th flr, lift, needs redec £145,000. Tel 0171 373 0033

SYDNEY STREET 1 bedroom basement flat in need of refurbishment. £105,000. Please call 0181 7462255.

W8. Large newly refurb lux flat 3 beds, 3 baths (2 e/s). LL, £385K. 0181 5060255/0958 368482.

WARWICK GARDENS Nr High St Ken, 2 dble bed flat 1st floor, pristine condition. £208,500. Hogarth Est 0171 373 9537

Period Mews House

Beautifully refurbished & redecorated throughout to the highest standard. 3 bedrooms, 2 new bathrooms (1 ens), handbuilt kitchen & breakfast room, 2 large reception rooms with 12ft ceilings & stripped wooden floors.
Must be seen.
£410,000 freehold (priv sale)
Tel: 01672 512960

EXCELLENT VALUE SW3
Unmodernised 3rd floor lateral conversion without a lift held on 39 year lease (Lease extension available)
LGE REC: 2 BEDS: BATH: KIT
LEASEHOLD £170,000 STC
SOLE AGENTS
AYLESFORD 0171 351 2383
Further Today Call Lucy Meinertzhagen/Michelle O'Leary

CADOGAN SQ SW1

Newly refurbished bright 2nd floor flat (with lift) overlooking London's premier garden square. Entrance hall, recep, 2 beds, bath, f/f kitchen, high ceilings, storage in basement, caretaker, communal gardens & tennis court.
PRIVATE SALE
Leasehold 68 years
£395,000
0973 675596

HARCOURT TERRACE

Light and spacious immaculate top floor flat. 2 double bedrooms, newly installed individually designed bathroom and (fully fitted) kitchen, large reception, inner hall (previously used as a study). Sunny terrace with tranquil views.
£280,000
0171 373 8783

HOLLAND PARK W11

Luxury Newly converted 2 bedroom flats, approx 1000sqft each.
£350,000.
Day 0171 582 7766
Eves 0171 962 0057

nr *SLOANE SQUARE*

Excellent 1 Double bed 3rd *Floor flat, in good condition.* Entrance hall, Reception, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Central Heating, Entry Phone, Caretaker, Access gardens. Vacant possession.
£175,000 Leasehold
Tel/Fax: 01798 873972
0181 891 6225

MAYFAIR

CARRINGTON STREET. An unmodernised one bed flat in well maintained p.b. block. Lease 70 yrs. £136,000 Goldenberg & Co 0171 491 4101

CHARLES STREET Recently refurbished Grade II Listed house. 3 receps, kitchen, 4 beds, 4 baths. Roof terrace. Flat 1st 4,000 sq ft. 74 yr lease £1.35 mill Park Lane Apts 0171 629 0763

MAYFAIR

CHESTERFIELD GARDENS A large one bed 4th flr flat in prime Mayfair Mansion block. 24 hr porterage. Lease 111 yrs (+ share F/H) £235,000. Goldenberg & Co 0171 491 4101

MOUNT ST Top floor 2 bedroom apartment (no lift), excellent quiet pied-de-terre. £225,000. Horne & Sons. 0171 499 9344

NOTTING HILL

NOTTING HILL

Unmod grd & lower mais. 1750 sq ft. Large recep, kitch/dining rm. 3 dbl beds, patio. Long lease. *share of f/hold avail. Rare* opportunity to design own flat in prime & secluded location close to park, underground & shops.
£390,000.
0171 7276393.
For immediate viewing.

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES

BRAND NEW TOWN HOUSE
(10 year NHBC)
Only yards from river walk and market place in quiet cul-de-sac. *Large flexible accomm. 3 beds, 2 baths, potential bedrm 4 / study,* large fully fitted kitchen / breakfast, lounge / diner, fully fitted utility, cloakroom, double integral garage, garden. *To include new carpets, curtains and appliances.*
£225,000 ono for quick sale.
01372 488333

SURBITON

4 bed detached house in *Southborough. Lounge,* dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, garage, large garden. Close to river. Waterloo 16 mins. private sale. No chain.
£349,000.
Tel: 0181 390 9869

LITTLE VENICE
MAIDA VALE.
2 BED WHITE STUCCO CONV. ON PICTURESQUE CANAL.

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

RICHMOND HILL Lge 4 bdrm flat, stunning views. Prvt pkg. Share f/h. £330,000. 0973 213516.

WIMBLEDON

VILLAGE Superb new period style house in heart of village, 5 beds, 4 baths, 3 reception rooms, luxury kitchen /breakfast, oak flooring and doors, detached double garage. 85x110 ft garden, electronically gated access. £850,000 Freehold. Hawes & Company 0181 946 6547.

BERKSHIRE

WARGRAVE ON THAMES Attractive 15th Century Grade II home quietly situated in the heart of the village. 4 beds, bath & shower, clks, 2 receps, cellar, garden, carport. Excess of £330,000 F/H Simmons & Sons 01491 571111.

CORNWALL

FOR AUCTION

Wortha, St Neot, Cornwall
Bodmin Moor: detached stone/slate semi-derelict cottage with outbuildings and some four acres of land. Idyllic isolate situation approached by a ford. Mains electricity and two fields, one with stream frontage.
Price guide £40,000

Bodmel Barn, Liskeard
Detached stone barn with planning permission for conversion to three-bedroomed dwelling. Out in the country a few miles west of Liskeard. 3.2 acres of land. Mains electricity.
Price guide £25,000

Auction: 9th June 1997

Details from
Kittows, 41 Fore Street, Callington, Cornwall PL17 7AQ
Tel: (01579) 383585

POLPERRO

Detached bungalow, 1600 sq ft, set in 2 acres of terraced gdns & woodland with spectacular views of sea & village. Sth. facing, 3 dbl beds, kit/brkfst rm, laundry rm, lage, bthrm. Suitable for conversion. Pvt drive, dble gge, in need of some restoration.
F/hold, £140,000.
0113 262 5164 (eves).

CUMBRIA

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¾ Hr Manchester/ Sheffield
On edge of peak district
Detached, built 6 yrs ago from reclaimed materials, accommodation approx 2000 sq.ft., terraced gardens to river, large conservatory, garage, GCH, double glazed, air conditioned and super insulated.
£210,000.
01298 813035.

DEVON

TOPSHAM EX3. Victorian Residence in sought after location with 300 ft. of water frontage & views onto River Exe. 2 receptions, study, 5/6 bedrooms. Gardens & Paddock of approx. 1 acre. Fulfords 01392 875057

DEVON

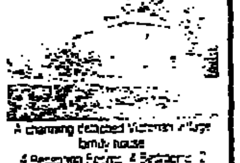
RURAL SOUTH HAMS.
Overlooking Avon Estuary. Architect designed 3 bed bungalow, in elevated position with magnificent views, easy reach of beaches & golf courses. Grounds of up to 13 acres with paddocks & plantation optional.
£235,000
CAMPBELL NICOL SIMPSON, KINGSBRIDGE. 01548 857879

DORSET

5 MILES BLANDFORD
Detached house, village cul-de-sac, 4 bedrooms (1 ensuite shower), bathroom, large sitting room, large dining room, study, kitchen & FF utility room, garage, front & back garden (with fishpond). *CH, double glazing.*
£124,000
01258 880718

EAST ANGLIA

NORTH NORFOLK
THE VINES, GREAT RYBURGH



A charming detached Victorian village family house
4 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, oil fired central heating. Outbuildings and grounds of about 3.7 acre [illegible]
[illegible]
Patrick Plumpton:
(01328) 863091

HAMPSHIRE

HAYLING ISLAND
HAMPSHIRE
Grade II listed, large thatched cottage. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 reception, kitchen, utility room. Separate barn converted to office/granny annex. Beautiful landscaped gardens. Garaging for 3 cars. *Convenient for mainline station - Waterloo 70 mins.*
£275,000.
Tel. 01705 469138

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Older style 3 bedroom detached property which is in need of some modernisation.

Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Seperate W.C., Off Street Parking.
£64,950

Call: Jamie 01255 222666.

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Located on the village common. Countryside leading to the River Chess at rear.
8 exclusive apartments and 2 luxury penthouses. Superb specification. Fabulous location.
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FAVERSHAM. Attractive mediaeval property situated in Conservation Area, having both office and residential use in need of refurbishment. Grnd flr - 3 rms, 2 clkrms, 1st flr - 6 rms, 2 bthrms (1 en-suite), 2nd flr - 4 rms. Attractive gdns and garaging. Wkshp. £295,000. Contact GA Town & Country Telephone 01622 765241.

FARNBOROUGH PARK
(City, 13 miles. BR 20mins)
Substantial character family home in glorious 1 acre grounds. 4 Reception, huge conservatory, large fitted kitchen, utility. 5/6 Beds. Games room. Heated swimming pool. Garaging. A superb property.
Sole Agents
William Wesson
01689 850 111

NEAR SEVENOAKS
Idyllic countryside location for five sympathetically designed new homes. 5-7 beds, conservatory, inglenook fireplace, plots from ¾ acre, triple garage. Stunning views. Price guide from £500,000. Showhome open Fri - Mon.
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TEL: 01732 811400/770991

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PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL SALES

AVON
Bristol: 4 b det Geo hse edge twn Cons. M4/M5 £125,000 15671

CARMARTHENSHIRE
Nr Llandovery: 5 b det vge b-w [illegible] views [illegible] £145,000 15647
Llandovery: 4b det hse [illegible] twn. 40 [illegible] £130,000 15257
Kidwelly: 6b det b/w in 3a sub Res Fm. Views £130,000 15614

CHESHIRE
Nr Malpas: 3b [illegible] Open countryside. £125,000 15715

CORNWALL
St Mawes: 4b det hse. Lge gdn. Sea vws. £435,000 15625
St Austell: 5b det [illegible] hse – gdn Lge/rms. 2m bay £119,500 15948
Perranporth: 3b det b/w 0.23a gdn Bch/twn 1.5m £130,000 15937
Liskeard: 3b s det mod style hse. Newly dec £52,000 15917

CUMBRIA
St Bees: 3b Geo (Gde 2) lge hse local B & B £100,000 16006

DENBIGHSHIRE
Prestatyn: 2b Lge det b/w. Cse cntryside/sea/Gf. £89,950 16072.

DEVON
Ashburton: 4b det fmly hse in pvte locn. Prtv vws £134,000 15644
Fordwater: 4b Lge det hse £ 5Ca [illegible] o/lks Axe vly £143,500 15737.
Nr Exeter: 4b det Geo hse in 33a O/lks R.Exe £180,000 15659.
Nr Sidmouth: 8b det hse. Sui B&B. Coast rc. £149,950 15662
Nr Colyton: 6b det [illegible] c1537 Tstly renv. £190,000 16013
Lynton: 9b (4 ens) det Vict hse in 1a. Supb vws £196,000 16037
Nr Exeter: 2b 1st fl apt in C17 hse Gge & gdn £65,000 15877

DORSET
Nr Lyme Regis: 3b det hse – Gny Area. Coast vws £248,000 16004

FIFE
Pitlessie: 3b det 100 yr vlge cott. Cse Golf Cse £99,000 15663

GLAMORGAN
Gower: 2b semi-det b/w in vlge Cntry/estuary vws £54,000 15688.
Nr Cowbridge: 4b det vlge hse Lge pvt gdn. 2a nge £225,000 15736.
Caswell Bay: 2b Lge [illegible] Hse Apt O/lks Bch £135,000 16074
Mayals, Swansea: 5b Geo det hse + Gnny fl £185,000 15696
Abercynon: 4a Ind. Chard res dev Regnl grnt avail £59,950 15935
Pontardulais: 5b ol hse o/s vlge Mgt vws. Cse M4 £159,950 16098.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
Tewkesbury: 1b [illegible] Vict Gnd fl flt. O/lks Abby/Pk. £48,000 16057
Cheltenham: Lge 1b top floor [illegible] flat £30,950 15932

GWENT
Ebbw Vale: 3b det b/w Pvte Est 1.5m Eb Vle. £72,000 16059

HAMPSHIRE
Milford on Sea: 3b det b/w cl beach Cse marina £112,500 15682
Petersfield: 3b det b/w prv gdn. BR Lon/Cons. A3. £142,500 15998

HEREFORDSHIRE
Nr Ross on Wye: 3b vlge cott 0.33a vws M50 £109,000 15676
Lugwardine: 3b det b/w O/lks vge grn 1.5m Hfd £118,000 15026

ISLE OF WIGHT
Newport: 4b ter [illegible] classic Vic hse Orig feats. £39,950 15667.
Bramstone: 3b s/det [illegible] (1850). 1b annex [illegible] £130,000 15606.

NORFOLK
Blofield: 3b det vlge b/w. Wonderful o/lks fields. £67,950 15648.

NORTHUMBERLAND
Nr Alnwick: 3b Wng Cntry [illegible] (C17) 0.33a [illegible] £115,000 15597
Bedlington: 2b Spacious First Floor Flat £13,500 15933
Mellridge: 3b det conv chpl (1885) [illegible] £99,000 16101

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Newark: 4b [illegible] style cntry hse. Accs [illegible] £149,000 16051.

OVERSEAS
POLAND, NOWYSACZ 6b det hse in 3a [illegible] £48,000 15665

OXFORDSHIRE
Ascott u Wychwood: 4b det brn cnv + annx. Vly vws. £187,000 15987

PEMBROKESHIRE
Haverfordwest: 3b ter hse + shop. M4 45 mins £110,000 15741.

SOMERSET
Bath: 5b Vic det hse 2 x B&B rms. £246,000 15679.
Shipham: 4b det village hse. Landscaped gdn. AONB £167,500 16054
Taunton: 2b top fl flat. 5 mins twn cre. Excl area. £50,000 15654

SUFFOLK
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THE TIMES
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TIMES CLASSIFIED MEANS SATISFIED

Sarah Harding and family tried moving themselves, **Kevin Eason** hired the professionals. Either way, it's stressful

Moving from hell to heaven

KOBAL

Moving is rarely as enjoyable as in the film *Helzapoppin!*, as Sarah Harding found out

I have moved home twice in the past four months, *Sarah Harding writes.* The pre-election property boom meant selling the London flat, moving everything into nearby storage, and, a few months later, out of storage into a house.

MPs due to wave farewell to the constituency, beware. For us, the first move — comprising husband, brother and man with small van — was sheer hell; the second — using professional removers — pure heaven.

Though we were prepared to spend thousands on a new house, more thousands on damp treatment, yet more on plasterers and paint, we balked at the odd £500 for professional removal men. (After all, they might be cowboys.)

Yet nothing can compare with that filthy day of stair-climbing, weight-lifting and flexibility otherwise required only at county sport level. Left (more than happy) holding the baby, I witnessed the initial light-hearted badinage between the men descend into a moroseness that at the end of the day left them barely able to grunt.

It started so well. A hearty fried breakfast for three at 9am, a cursory glance at the packed boxes, a few jokes about the flights of stairs (we lived in a top flat).

But, as we were to discover, the only cowboys in this process were ourselves. We had too few men, too small a van and too much to move. Even the storage space we had booked proved too small and had to be increased. Furthermore, most of it lay still unpacked around us.

Such was our self-deception that a seemingly empty flat still contained enough stuff — washing-up brushes, sheets, the day's newspaper, wastepaper bins — to fill another 14 plastic bags.

And it was all so heavy. We had not yet learnt that you reserve the smallest boxes for books, for example, let alone that you don't stack the china at the bottom of the suitcase.

Then there was the piano. ("Professional piano movers? Not at £150!" we said.) So doors were prised off hinges, windows flung open wide and taken out. In the event the outside fire escape was used for a support as the swinging £3,000 piano was carefully hoisted down from upstairs sitting-room window to a waiting brother, arms outstretched, in the garden.

The transporting of the goods was the easy bit. At the other end, the mental effort required to work out how to fill to maximum a storage unit from floor to ceiling and from wall to wall took more time than wrapping the contents of the kitchen cupboards. Beds in first, then sturdy tables, fragile objects on top, and finally all those plastic bags usefully used to squash into the nooks and crannies.

It took 12 hours in all: 9am to 9pm. Cost: £12 an hour for the van, pocket money to my brother, £2.50 or £3 plus VAT each for new storage boxes, £1.50 plus VAT for the tape to bind them. Back-of-an-envelope total: £220 plus three takeaway dinners and a case of beers.

It came as no surprise to hear my husband sigh, "Never again".

Three months later, we met a man in a suit from Pickfords, who politely asked to see our storage cubicles so that he could check what sort of objects they contained, whether they were heavy or awkwardly shaped. And, at the new house, he checked how many flights of steps it had and then worked out what size of van and what number of men he would need.

He quoted us £580.80 including VAT. We asked for a reduction, and he took £20 off for the move's scant mileage. He also deducted the insurance (£43). It would be difficult to ascertain whether damage had occurred in storage or in transit, he said.

Four men managed the move in four hours. By midday it was all over. Box after tidy box filed into the house. All the random objects — umbrella stand, Spanish urn, shoe rack, 4ft-high dried bayleaf tree (which we had awkwardly rammed into the storage and hurriedly shut the door on), were whisked away into blankets and put into new containers, to make transportation easier.

The piano, wrapped in blankets, tied in straps and rolled on a trolley, took a mere five minutes to be moved into position.

It was done with an effortlessness borne of practice and a training in lifting. No squashed toes for these ex-service types.

Even their humour brightened potentially black moments. "See you have woodworm, guv," they cheerily announced brandishing a Chesterton sofa leg which had dissolved into powder while in storage. "Spreads like wildfire, you know."

For us, the only thing spreading that day was a cosy feeling of well-being. My husband monitored proceedings or, rather, floated around indicating suitable sites for boxes; I went to the gym, and my brother ensured he was nowhere to be seen.

HOW TO MAKE MOVING EASIER

The British Association of Removers (BAR) can provide details of member companies, some of which are listed in the *Yellow Pages*. The association provides a guide for those about to move. Advice includes:

- Avoid moving on a Friday. Everybody moves on a Friday which is why it is harder to move and can cost more on that day.
- Always insure for total peace of mind but remember that your insurance will not cover items that you have packed yourself.
- If there are parking restrictions at your new house, warn the remover. A removal van needs 50ft for parking.
- Give the foreman a spare key. The van often arrives at the new home before the owner and waiting time will cost more.
- BAR at 3 Churchill Court, 58 Station Road, North Harrow HA2 7SA; tel: 0181-861 3331, fax: 0181-861 3332.

The case of the naked vendor

BUYERS had been found and lost with such regularity that we had given up all hope of moving house — ever, *Kevin Eason writes.* After a year, we found someone who really did want to move in to our detached house in Warwickshire — but immediately. We rented a four-bedroom house in St Albans until we could find somewhere to buy. But the house was furnished, which meant putting our furniture into store.

To this day, Mrs Eason, who was in charge of logistics, assures me that there was a system. The only people who didn't seem to know anything about it were me and our cheery team of removal men, who were apparently oblivious to all instruction, their only mission to get their job over as quickly as possible.

The removal men were to fill two-thirds of the pantechnicon with furniture and boxes for store, the other third with the things we would need, mainly clothes in clearly labelled boxes.

When the van had gone and I retreated to the shower to get ready to treat everyone to a post-removal meal, the flaw in the plan emerged. I, alone in the family, had no clothes. Not even a clean sock.

This was Saturday night. I had to be in the office on Monday and all I had were the tatty T-shirt, jeans and trainers I stood up in.

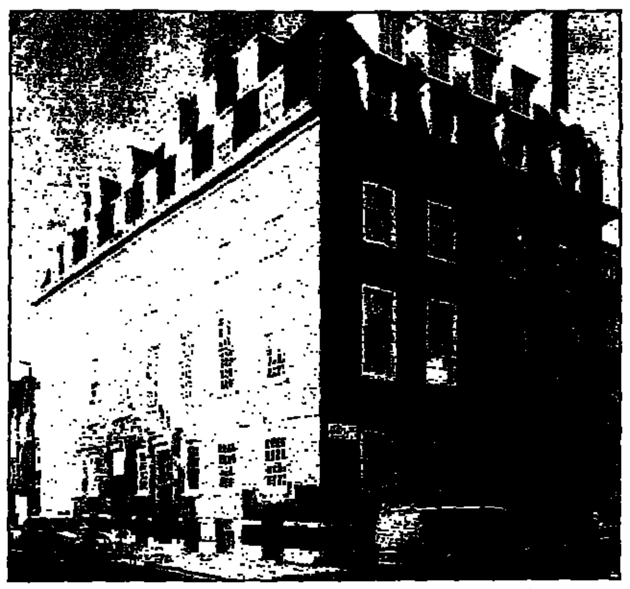
Wondrously, the family's only response to this crisis was to giggle, but then, they were all dressed beautifully for the restaurant that evening as I shuffled in embarrassment from one Nike-shod foot to the other.

On Sunday morning I went to Bhs, the only store open, and buying pants knickers, socks and shirts, tried desperately to put enough clothing together to make a working wardrobe until I could get to my clothes 80 miles away in Rugby.

A week later I went to the storage firm, and one of our removal team said, without a hint of irony: "Is that a new shirt? Very nice."

Katherine Bergen on properties in London for MPs

Close to the seats of power



The £3.25 million Lutyens building in Westminster

JONATHAN AITKEN lives in Lord North Street, Lord Strathclyde, chief whip in the Lords, in Cowley Street, and both Michael Portillo and John Patten within a whisker of Westminster Cathedral. There is property, at a price, for politicians who want to live in the "Division Bell" area — traditionally eight minutes' walk from the Lobby.

Three Georgian houses within metres of Parliament Square are being renovated for sale in Old Queen Street just off Parliament Square.

Each house, for sale with Hamptons International of Pimlico (0171-823 4994), has six floors: three for reception rooms and three for bedrooms. Telephone systems with computer linking and fax facilities will also allow potential for another further ten lines in each property. Each house is £1.5 million.

The fatalistic — or realistic — MP might consider a £185,000 three-bedroom flat with a mere seven-year lease on the market with Knight Frank (0171-629 8171). The property, in Jermyn Street, is convenient for Wilton's, a restaurant beloved by MPs.

Knight Frank is also selling a property in Westminster that only the truly affluent could afford. A Lutyens building — actually once two houses — in Great Peter Street, built in 1911 is for sale in the region of £3.25 million. Now being restored, the houses will resell as the largest privately owned residential accommodation in Westminster. The 40ft drawing room would be useful for fund-raising parties.

The more modest politician can buy a 1930s studio flat through Tuckermans (0171-222 5511), which specialises in Westminster properties. The flat, in Astral House in Regency Place, is priced at £87,500.

Renting, especially in leafy Pimlico, is popular among MPs. Jackson Stops & Staff (0171-828 4050) is offering an airy, unfurnished two-bedroom maisonette in Charlwood Street for £325 a week.

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MEON VALLEY, 17th cent cttge. Outstanding situation, 3 beds, gch, all mod cons, secluded garden, £800 pcm 01730 823606.

COUNTRY RENTALS

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Large 7 bed period country house, 4 bathrms, large heated indoor pool, games rm, jacuzzi, disco etc, garages, large garden, well secured. Furnished or unfurnished. Fully equipped with all mod cons
Long or short term let
Price by negotiation
Tel: 01842 815520.

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Part of an exceptionally fine Edwardian Country House with heated squash court and immaculate grass tennis court. Entrance hall, drawing-rm, study, dining rm, kitchen/breakfast rm, 5 beds. Huge attic studio. 2 bathrooms. All principal rooms face south overlooking approx. 2 acres of landscaped gardens. Available from 1st June p/furnished for 2 to 5 year let. £2,500 pcm.
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EAST SUSSEX
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£150,000
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FRANCE

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01832 720630
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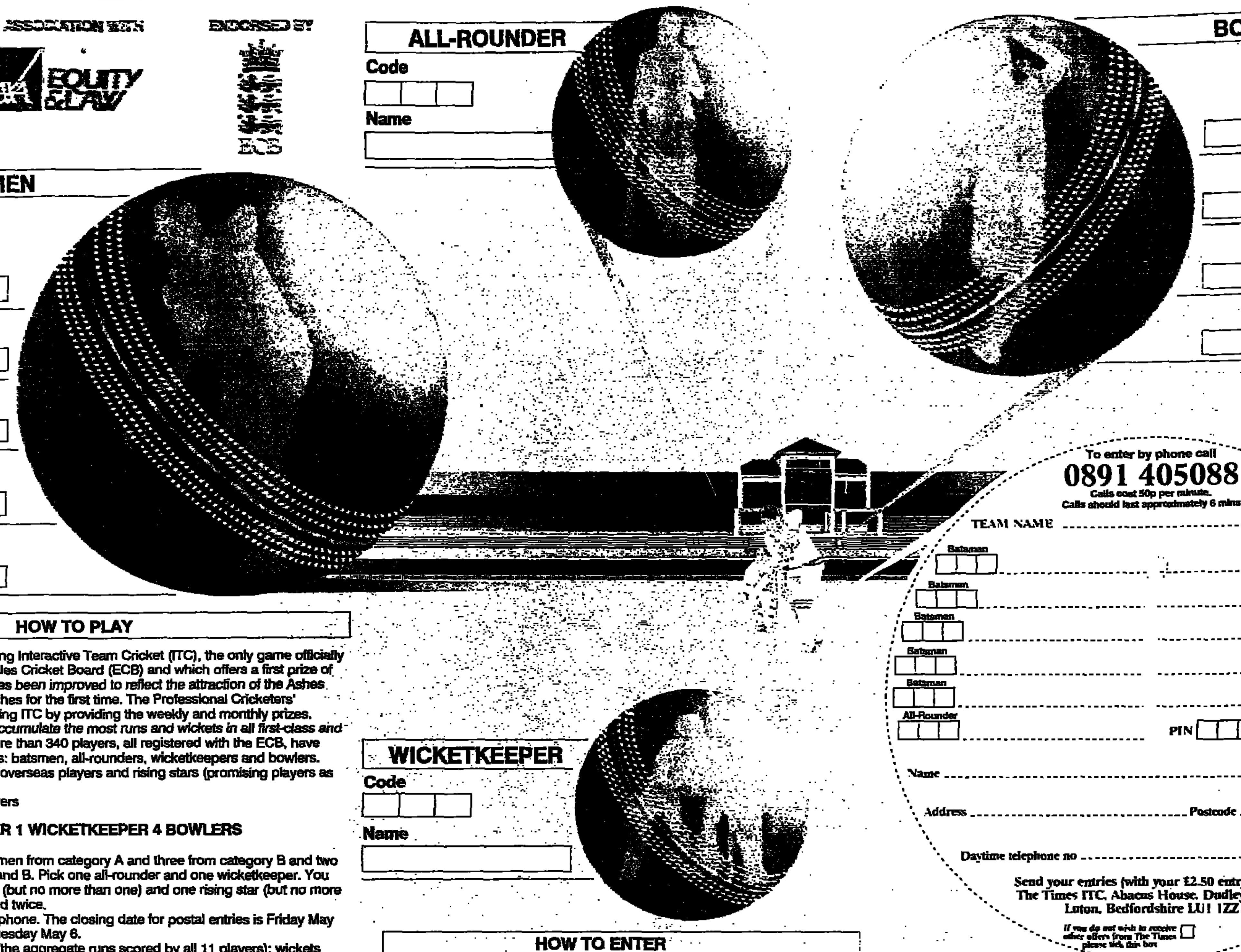

BATSMEN

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

ALL-ROUNDER

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

WICKETKEEPER

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

BOWLERS

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

Code ☐☐☐
Name ________

SUPPORTED BY PCA

HOW TO PLAY

Mark the start of summer by playing Interactive Team Cricket (ITC), the only game officially endorsed by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and which offers a first prize of *£10,000. This season the game has been improved to reflect the attraction of the Ashes* series and includes one-day matches for the first time. The Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) is also supporting ITC by providing the weekly and monthly prizes.
Pick the team that you think will accumulate the most runs and wickets in all first-class and one-day matches this season. More than 340 players, all registered with the ECB, have been listed in the following groups: batsmen, all-rounders, wicketkeepers and bowlers. There are two secondary groups: overseas players and rising stars (promising players as selected by *The Times*).
You must select a team of 11 players

5 BATSMEN 1 ALL-ROUNDER 1 WICKETKEEPER 4 BOWLERS

Each team must include two batsmen from category A and three from category B and two bowlers from each of category A and B. Pick one all-rounder and one wicketkeeper. You must include one overseas player (but no more than one) and one rising star (but no more than one). No player can be picked twice.
You may enter by post, fax or telephone. The closing date for postal entries is Friday May 2, for fax and telephone entries Tuesday May 6.
Scores will be measured by runs (the aggregate runs scored by all 11 players); wickets (the wickets taken by all 11 players) and catches and stumpings (made by all 11 players). Each run will count as one point, each catch as 20 points and each stumping as 40 points. This summer, Cornhill Test matches between England and Australia will offer double points. *The total of runs, wickets and dismissals will represent the entrant's total team* score. The entrant with the highest aggregate score after the final matches on September 21 will win first prize.
The first-class matches that will count in ITC are Cornhill Test matches, Britannic Assurance county championship matches, Tetley Challenge matches between the counties and the Australians, matches between the counties and Pakistan A, and between the counties and the Universities. One-day matches also count this summer: Texaco Trophy one-day internationals, Axa Life League, NatWest Trophy and Benson and Hedges Cup. *All other matches do not count. Teams start to score points from Wednesday May 7.*
ITC has a transfer system which allows you to change players during the season. You may replace a bowler with another bowler, but you must keep to the format, ie a bowler from category A must be replaced by one from category A. The number of transfer allowances depends on when you register. For example: if you register from now until the end of May, your team will be allocated 10 transfers. When you use these transfers is up to you. You may decide to transfer five in one week, or two a month. You may use as many or as little as you please but only up to your team allowance. If you register in June, your team will be *allocated eight transfers. A July registration allows you six transfers, an August registration* four and a September registration two.
All transfers must be made within a transfer period and will become effective for matches commencing in the following transfer period. Transfer periods are weekly, from Wednesday 00.01am to Tuesday midnight. The transfer line will open on Wednesday May 21. First prize is £10,000. The weekly winner (a week is deemed to be from Wednesday to Tuesday inclusive) and the monthly winner (the first month is from May 7- 31, thereafter each calendar month) will win prizes including a pair of tickets to England v Australia Test matches, exclusive signed *memorabilia of past and present England players, and a signed* first edition of the PCA Yearbook. Monthly winners also receive a cash prize of £500.

HOW TO ENTER

☎ *Entrants registering by telephone must call* 0891 405088 (44 990 100 398 for the Republic of Ireland) using a touch-tone telephone (DTMF). Most telephones with *and # keys are touch-tone. They will be given step-by-step instructions on the recorded message which will ask them to tap in their full team selection (batsmen, all-rounder, wicketkeeper, then bowlers) using the three-digit codes. The entrant will be asked to give the name of their team (no more than 16 characters) followed by their name, address and daytime telephone number. *They will then be given a 10-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) as* confirmation of their entry which they should keep with a record of their team details as no confirmation will be sent by post.

The telephone lines are open now and will be open 24 hours a day until 5pm on Tuesday May 6. Telephone calls will cost 50p per minute and will take approximately six minutes. *Transfers may only be made by telephone.*

Those who register by post using the panel on this page will receive a letter confirming their team and Personal Identification Number (PIN). Each application (photocopies are not acceptable) must be accompanied by a cheque for £2.50 payable to The Times ITC and sent to: The Times ITC, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1ZZ to *arrive by Friday May 2. Entries from outside the United Kingdom (not including* the Republic of Ireland) must include a cheque for £10.

To register by fax, complete the entry form and send your credit card details for the £2.50 entry fee to 0660 600506 (44 171 649 1714 from outside the United Kingdom). Entries from outside the United *Kingdom (not including the Republic of Ireland) must include credit card* details to the value of £10. Calls cost 49p per minute.

To enter by phone call
0891 405088
Calls cost 50p per minute.
Calls should last approximately 6 mins

TEAM NAME ______________ (up to 16 characters)

Batsman ☐☐☐ ________
Batsman ☐☐☐ ________
Batsman ☐☐☐ ________
Batsman ☐☐☐ ________
Batsman ☐☐☐ ________
All-Rounder ☐☐☐ ________
Wicketkeeper ☐☐☐ ________
Bowler ☐☐☐ ________
Bowler ☐☐☐ ________
Bowler ☐☐☐ ________
Bowler ☐☐☐ ________
PIN ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Name ________

Address ________ Postcode ________

Daytime telephone no ________

Send your entries (with your £2.50 entry fee) to:
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Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ

If you do not wish to receive other offers from The Times please tick this box ☐

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Address ________
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Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card ________
Supply address of registered cardholder on a separate sheet of paper if different from that above Signature ________

SCORING

		All matches (except Ashes Tests)	Ashes Tests
BATTING	Run	1 point	2 points
	Half century	5 bonus points	10 bonus points
	Century	10 bonus points	20 bonus points
	Duck	-20 points	-40 points
BOWLING	Wicket	20 points	40 points
	Five wickets in a innings	10 bonus points	20 bonus points
	Ten wickets in a match	20 bonus points	40 bonus points
FIELDING	*Catch*	*20 points*	*40 points*
	Stumping	40 points	80 points

BATSMEN

Code	Player (county)	1996 Runs	1996 Wkts	Points total
Category A				
001	C J Adams (Derbyshire)	1742	0	1742
002	G F Archer (Notts)	918	3	978
003	M A Atherton (Lancashire)	963	1	983
004	C W J Athey (Sussex)	1091	0	1091
005	*R J Bailey (Northants)*	722	2	762
006	K J Barnett (Derbyshire)	1456	12	1696
007	D J Bicknell (Surrey)	969	16	1289
008	G S Blewett (Australia)	—	—	—
009	D C Boon (Durham)	—	—	—
010	P D Bowler (Somerset)	1228	3	1288
011	A D Brown (Surrey)	555	0	555
012	M A Butcher (Surrey)	1604	7	1744
013	P A Cottey (Glamorgan)	1543	4	1623
014	J P Crawley (Lancashire)	1102	0	1102
015	K M Curran (Northants)	1242	11	1462
016	M T G Elliott (Australia)	—	—	—
017	N H Fairbrother (Lancs)	1068	0	1068
018	J E R Gallian (Lancashire)	1156	16	1476
019	M W Gatting (Middlesex)	901	0	901
020	G A Gooch (Essex)	1944	2	1984
021	M L Hayden (Hampshire)	—	—	—
022	D L Hemp (Warwickshire)	405	4	485
023	G A Hick (Worcestershire)	1245	5	1345
024	A J Hollioake (Surrey)	1522	12	1762
025	N Hussain (Essex)	1386	0	1386
026	*S P James (Glamorgan)*	*1766*	*0*	*1766*
027	D M Jones (Derbyshire)	1502	9	1682
028	J H Kallis (Middlesex)	128	6	248
029	N V Knight (Warwickshire)	1196	0	1196
030	*J S Laney (Hampshire)*	*1163*	*0*	*1163*
031	M N Lathwell (Somerset)	1224	1	1244
032	G D Lloyd (Lancashire)	1194	1	1214
033	M B Loye (Northants)	1048	0	1048
034	M P Maynard (Glamorgan)	1610	0	1610
035	*A McGrath (Yorkshire)*	*999*	*0*	*999*
036	R R Montgomerie (Northants)	1178	0	1178
037	T M Moody (Worcs)	1427	37	2167
038	H Morris (Glamorgan)	1666	0	1666
039	M D Moxon (Yorkshire)	961	0	961
040	T L Penney (Warwickshire)	1295	0	1295
041	M R Ramprakash (Middlesex)	1441	3	1501
042	R T Robinson (Notts)	1302	0	1302
043	P V Simmons (Leics)	1244	56	2364
044	M J Slater (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
045	B F Smith (Leicestershire)	1243	0	1243
046	*R A Smith (Hampshire)*	*1396*	*0*	*1396*
047	A J Stewart (Surrey)	966	0	966
048	M A Taylor (Australia)	—	—	—
049	G P Thorpe (Surrey)	1589	2	1609
050	M P Vaughan (Yorkshire)	1161	17	1501
051	T R Ward (Kent)	1252	2	1292
052	M E Waugh (Australia)	—	—	—
053	S R Waugh (Australia)	—	—	—
054	A P Wells (Kent)	1206	0	1206
055	V J Wells (Leicestershire)	1331	26	1851
056	W P C Weston (Worcs)	1389	0	1389
057	J J Whitaker (Leicestershire)	1093	0	1093
Category B				
058	D A Blenkiron (Durham)	328	5	428
059	D Byas (Yorkshire)	933	0	933
060	*M E Cassar (Derbyshire)*	—	—	—
061	G R Cowdrey (Kent)	529	1	549
062	R J Cunliffe (Gloucestershire)	252	0	252
063	*T S Curtis (Worcestershire)*	*952*	*2*	*992*
064	A Dale (Glamorgan)	690	12	930
065	J A Daley (Durham)	477	0	477
066	R I Dawson (Gloucestershire)	141	1	161
067	*M P Dowman (Notts)*	*337*	*2*	*377*
068	A W Evans (Glamorgan)	—	—	—
069	A Flintoff (Lancashire)	2	0	2
070	A Fordham (Northants)	502	0	502
071	D P Fulton (Kent)	852	1	872
072	A P Grayson (Essex)	939	18	1299
073	K Greenfield (Sussex)	916	0	916
074	*A Habib (Leicestershire)*	792	0	*792*
075	T H C Hancock (Gloucs)	709	0	709
076	R J Harden (Somerset)	676	1	696
077	*J C Harrison (Middlesex)*	—	—	—
078	A N Hayhurst (Derbyshire)	224	1	244
079	G R Haynes (Worcestershire)	0	0	0
080	*D R Hewson (Gloucestershire)*	—	—	—
081	A J E Hibbert (Essex)	—	—	—
082	T P Hodgson (Essex)	—	—	—
083	P C L Holloway (Somerset)	535	7	675
084	W J House (Kent)	—	—	—
085	S Hutton (Durham)	812	0	812
086	P Johnson (Nottinghamshire)	980	1	1000
087	*M Keech (Hampshire)*	*793*	*0*	*793*
088	W S Kendall (Hampshire)	1045	2	1085
089	G J Kennis (Surrey)	3	0	3
090	R A Kettleborough (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
091	G A Khan (Derbyshire)	—	—	—
092	W G Khan (Warwickshire)	738	0	738
093	D A Leatherdale (Worcs)	539	11	759
094	N J Lenham (Sussex)	903	3	963
095	J J B Lewis (Durham)	238	0	238
096	N J Llong (Kent)	763	11	983
097	M A Lynch (Gloucestershire)	553	0	553
098	G I Macmillan (Leicestershire)	201	2	241
099	*D L Maddy (Leicestershire)*	*958*	*4*	*1038*
100	M R May (Derbyshire)	—	—	—
101	P C McKeown (Lancashire)	—	—	—
102	A A Metcalfe (Notts)	771	0	771
103	S P Moffat (Middlesex)	—	—	—
104	*A J Moles (Warwickshire)*	*903*	*0*	*903*
105	J E Morris (Durham)	429	0	429
106	K Newell (Sussex)	234	1	254
107	*D P Ostler (Warwickshire)*	*863*	*0*	*863*
108	J E Owen (Derbyshire)	499	0	499
109	K A Parsons (Somerset)	408	2	448
110	S D Peters (Essex)	—	—	—
111	P R Pollard (Nottinghamshire)	737	0	737
112	J C Pooley (Middlesex)	881	0	881
113	M J Powell (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
114	P J Prichard (Essex)	959	0	959
115	T A Radford (Sussex)	—	—	—
116	R K Rao (Sussex)	—	—	—
117	*J D Ratcliffe (Surrey)*	*494*	5	*594*
118	D J Roberts (Northants)	—	—	—
119	D D J Robinson (Essex)	738	0	738
120	*A S Rollins (Derbyshire)*	*1101*	*0*	*1101*
121	M A Roseberry (Durham)	744	0	744
122	*D J Sales (Northamptonshire)*	*280*	*0*	*280*
123	*O A Shah (Middlesex)*	*212*	*1*	*232*
124	N Shahid (Surrey)	535	6	655
125	A Singh (Warwickshire)	718	0	718
126	E T Smith (Kent)	—	—	—
127	N J Speak (Durham)	579	0	579
128	K R Spiring (Worcestershire)	—	—	—
129	J P Stephenson (Hampshire)	611	36	1331
130	I J Sutcliffe (Leicestershire)	443	3	503
131	A J Swann (Northants)	—	—	—
132	N R Taylor (Sussex)	0	0	0
133	S P Titchard (Lancashire)	939	1	959
134	N J Trainor (Gloucestershire)	—	—	—
135	*M E Trescothick (Somerset)*	*720*	*0*	*720*
136	T A Tweats (Derbyshire)	130	0	130
137	*M J Walker (Kent)*	*606*	*0*	*606*
138	M A Wagh (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
139	*C D Walsh (Kent)*	—	—	—
140	T C Walton (Northants)	302	2	342
141	P E Wellings (Middlesex)	—	—	—
142	*R M S Weston (Durham)*	*29*	*0*	*29*
143	P R Whitaker (Hampshire)	535	10	735
144	G W White (Hampshire)	652	0	652
145	M G N Windows (Gloucs)	443	0	443
146	A J Wright (Gloucestershire)	415	0	415

ALL-ROUNDERS

Code	Player (county)	1996 Runs	1996 Wkts	Points total
147	M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire)	887	54	1967
148	I D Austin (Lancashire)	437	22	877
149	M G Bevan (Australia)	1225	4	1305
150	D R Brown (Warwickshire)	671	40	1471
151	G P Butcher (Glamorgan)	—	—	—
152	D J Capel (Northamptonshire)	814	35	1514
153	P D Collingwood (Durham)	—	—	—
154	D G Cork (Derbyshire)	779	57	1919
155	R D B Croft (Glamorgan)	647	76	2167
156	P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)	394	64	1674
157	*V C Drakes (Sussex)*	*649*	*50*	*1649*
158	K P Dutch (Middlesex)	—	—	—
159	M A Ealham (Kent)	618	47	1558
160	S C Ecclestone (Somerset)	334	0	334
161	K P Evans (Nottinghamshire)	482	30	1082
162	M V Fleming (Kent)	855	18	1215
163	J P Hewitt (Middlesex)	—	—	—
164	*K J Innes (Northamptonshire)*	—	—	—
165	R C Irani (Essex)	1039	47	1979
166	K D James (Hampshire)	738	30	1338
167	B P Julian (Surrey)	759	61	1979
168	S R Lampitt (Worcestershire)	658	54	1738
169	D R C Law (Essex)	—	—	—
170	S G Law (Australia)	1545	14	1825
171	C C Lewis (Surrey)	639	45	1539
172	A C Morris (Yorkshire)	189	4	269
173	A L Penberthy (Northants)	635	34	1315
174	G M Roberts (Derbyshire)	—	—	—
175	N M K Smith (Warwickshire)	626	43	1486
176	J N Snape (Northants)	277	23	737
177	*V S Solanki (Worcestershire)*	*828*	*27*	*1368*
178	P A Strang (Kent)	—	—	—
179	C M Tolley (Nottinghamshire)	306	14	586
180	Wasim Akram (Lancashire)	211	32	851
181	*M Watkinson (Lancashire)*	*645*	*37*	*1385*
182	P N Weekes (Middlesex)	1218	32	1858
183	C M Wells (Somerset)	609	9	789
184	C White (Yorkshire)	949	37	1689
185	S Young (Gloucestershire)	—	—	—

WICKETKEEPERS

Code	Player (county)	1996 Runs	1996 Wkts	Points total
186	A N Aymes (Hampshire)	801	45	1701
187	J N Batty (Surrey)	—	—	—
188	R J Blakey (Yorkshire)	839	44	1719
189	*K R Brown (Middlesex)*	*917*	*61*	*2137*
190	M Burns (Somerset)	345	18	705
191	C A Chapman (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
192	I Dawood (Worcestershire)	—	—	—
193	T Frost (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
194	S P Griffiths (Derbyshire)	0	0	0
195	I A Healy (Australia)	—	—	—
196	W K Hegg (Lancashire)	713	55	1813
197	B J Hyam (Essex)	—	—	—
198	D A Kenway (Hampshire)	—	—	—
199	*K M Krikken (Derbyshire)*	*882*	*67*	*2222*
200	D G C Ligertwood (Durham)	367	36	1087
201	S A Marsh (Kent)	478	34	1158
202	*C P Metson (Glamorgan)*	*53*	*16*	*373*
203	P Moores (Sussex)	782	52	1822
204	P A Nixon (Leicestershire)	880	62	2120
205	W M Noon (Nottinghamshire)	332	33	992
206	K J Piper (Warwickshire)	429	27	969
207	S J Rhodes (Worcestershire)	939	48	1899
208	D Ripley (Northamptonshire)	448	23	908
209	R J Rollins (Essex)	719	62	1959
210	R C Russell (Gloucestershire)	858	51	1878
211	A D Shaw (Glamorgan)	261	33	941
212	*M P Speight (Durham)*	*514*	*0*	*514*
213	R J Turner (Somerset)	668	67	2008
214	R J Warren (Northants)	486	20	886
215	P Whitticase (Leicestershire)	0	0	0
216	R C J Williams (Gloucs)	133	13	393

BOWLERS

Code	Player (county)	1996 Runs	1996 Wkts	Points total
Category A				
217	J A Afford (Nottinghamshire)	34	51	1054
218	S J W Andrew *(Essex)*	*61*	*15*	*361*
219	M C J Ball (Gloucestershire)	236	13	496
220	R T Bates (Nottinghamshire)	229	21	649
221	J E Benjamin (Surrey)	141	39	921
222	*M M Betts (Durham)*	*308*	*44*	*1188*
223	M P Bicknell (Surrey)	333	66	1653
224	J N B Bovill (Hampshire)	131	34	811
225	M T Brimson (Leicestershire)	51	35	751
226	S J E Brown (Durham)	404	79	1984
227	A R Caddick (Somerset)	199	73	1659
228	G Chapple (Lancashire)	329	50	1329
229	C A Connor (Hampshire)	140	49	1120
230	*A P Cowan (Essex)*	*188*	*40*	*988*
231	D M Cox (Durham)	434	26	954
232	*R P Davis (Gloucestershire)*	308	23	768
233	A A Donald (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
234	A R C Fraser (Middlesex)	238	49	1218
235	*A F Giles (Warwickshire)*	*600*	*64*	*1880*
236	J N Gillespie (Australia)	—	—	—
237	D Gough (Yorkshire)	501	67	1841
238	*A J Harris (Derbyshire)*	*102*	*53*	*1162*
239	P J Hartley (Yorkshire)	476	54	1556
240	D W Headley (Kent)	253	51	1273
241	R K Illingworth (Worcs)	420	51	1440
242	*M C Ilott (Essex)*	*343*	*50*	*1343*
243	P W Jarvis (Sussex)	164	19	544
244	R L Johnson (Middlesex)	243	25	743
245	G Keedy (Lancashire)	73	23	533
246	*R J Kirtley (Sussex)*	*22*	*27*	*562*
247	J D Lewry (Sussex)	138	41	958
248	M J McCague (Kent)	357	76	1877
249	G D McGrath (Australia)	—	—	—
250	D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)	119	82	1759
251	P J Martin (Lancashire)	278	44	1158
252	*R J Maru (Hampshire)*	*303*	*18*	*663*
253	D J Millns (Leicestershire)	424	72	1864
254	Mohammad Akram (N'hants)	—	—	—
255	A D Mullally (Leicestershire)	249	70	1649
256	T A Munton (Warwickshire)	177	35	877
257	Mushtaq Ahmed (Somerset)	118	41	938
258	P J Newport (Worcestershire)	142	19	522
259	G J Parsons (Leicestershire)	290	47	1230
260	M M Patel (Kent)	278	33	938
261	R M Pearson (Surrey)	142	31	762
262	A R K Pierson (Leicestershire)	263	48	1223
263	P R Reiffel (Australia)	—	—	—
264	G D Rose (Somerset)	408	50	1408
265	I D K Salisbury (Surrey)	562	52	1602
266	A Sheriyar (Worcestershire)	38	37	778
267	K J Shine (Somerset)	121	35	821
268	C E W Silverwood (Yorkshire)	198	47	1138
269	A M Smith (Gloucestershire)	364	60	1564
270	R D Stemp (Yorkshire)	260	42	1100
271	P M Such (Essex)	176	82	1816
272	*J P Taylor (Northamptonshire)*	242	64	1522
273	P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)	290	78	1850
274	S D Udal (Hampshire)	447	34	1127
275	S K Warne (Australia)	—	—	—
276	Waqar Younis (Glamorgan)	19	30	619
277	S L Watkin (Glamorgan)	153	67	1493
278	N F Williams (Essex)	221	35	921
279	J Wood (Durham)	97	26	617
Category B				
280	U Afzaal (Nottinghamshire)	264	3	324
281	P Aldred (Derbyshire)	50	8	210
282	D A Altree (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
283	G J Batty (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
284	M A V Bell (Warwickshire)	0	0	0
285	J Boiling (Durham)	79	9	259
286	M N Bowen (Nottinghamshire)	—	—	—
287	J E Brinkley (Worcestershire)	0	0	0
288	J F Brown (Northamptonshire)	—	—	—
289	R J Chapman (Worcs)	—	—	—
290	V P Clarke (Derbyshire)	43	1	63
291	*D A Cosker (Glamorgan)*	—	—	—
292	D M Cousins (Essex)	0	0	0
293	A P Davies (Glamorgan)	—	—	—
294	*K J Dean (Derbyshire)*	—	—	—
295	R R Dibden (Hampshire)	1	2	41
296	M Dimond (Somerset)	0	0	0
297	S W K Ellis (Worcestershire)	63	14	343
298	J E Emburey (Northants)	—	—	—
299	R A Fay (Middlesex)	—	—	—
300	D Follett (Northamptonshire)	—	—	—
301	*M J Foster (Durham)*	—	—	—
302	P J Franks (Nottinghamshire)	—	—	—
303	*R J Green (Lancashire)*	*91*	*22*	*531*
304	G M Hamilton (Yorkshire)	71	8	231
305	S Herzberg (Somerset)	—	—	—
306	J E Hindson (Notts)	0	0	0
307	*B C Hollioake (Surrey)*	—	—	—
308	J G Hughes (Northants)	22	3	82
309	P M Hutchison (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
310	A P Igglesden (Kent)	0	0	0
311	J I D Kerr (Somerset)	176	11	396
312	N Killeen (Durham)	40	12	280
313	J J Lewis (Gloucestershire)	119	18	479
314	S Lugsden (Durham)	—	—	—
315	R S C Martin-Jenkins (Sussex)	20	1	40
316	A D Mascarenhas (Hants)	—	—	—
317	T J Mason (Leicestershire)	—	—	—
318	S M Milburn (Hampshire)	180	17	520
319	R W Nowell (Surrey)	28	2	68
320	J Ormond (Leicestershire)	0	0	0
321	O T Parkin (Glamorgan)	—	—	—
322	M W Patterson (Surrey)	—	—	—
323	B J Phillips (Kent)	—	—	—
324	N C Phillips (Sussex)	223	13	483
325	R A Pick (Nottinghamshire)	66	7	206
326	N W Preston (Kent)	—	—	—
327	M Rawnsley (Worcestershire)	—	—	—
328	S J Renshaw (Hampshire)	—	—	—
329	M A Robinson (Sussex)	0	0	0
330	M J Saggers (Durham)	—	—	—
331	J P Searle (Durham)	0	0	0
332	D J Shadford (Lancashire)	0	0	0
333	K P Sheeraz (Gloucestershire)	3	1	23
334	G C Small (Warwickshire)	55	19	435
335	E J Stanford (Kent)	12	5	112
336	S D Thomas (Glamorgan)	199	20	599
337	J B D Thompson (Kent)	89	9	269
338	M J Thursfield (Sussex)	89	5	189
339	H R J Trump (Somerset)	0	4	80
340	A J Tudor (Surrey)	0	0	0
341	*M J Vandrau (Derbyshire)*	—	—	—
342	A P van Troost (Somerset)	27	9	207
343	A Walker (Durham)	25	2	65
344	G Welch (Warwickshire)	—	—	—
345	A G Wharf (Yorkshire)	—	—	—
346	T N Wren (Kent)	15	9	195
347	G Yates (Lancashire)	21	5	121

Remember that you must select two batsmen from Category A and three from Category B, and that you must select *two* bowlers from each category.

Overseas players are shown in **bold type.** *Rising* Stars in *italic.*

Further additions *to the player listings* will be made in due course, once the game is up and running, including changes to the counties' overseas players and changes to the anticipated Australian tour party.

FOOTBALL: MANAGER SAYS SCOTLAND CAN CONFIRM CREDENTIALS AS LIKELY QUALIFIERS FOR WORLD CUP FINALS IN SWEDEN TONIGHT

Brown believes McAllister can make the difference

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA IN GOTHENBURG

THE late arrival is always the last to leave. A principle that holds true for parties seems to apply to football as well. This evening, against Sweden in the Ullevi Stadium, Gary McAllister will win his fiftieth cap for Scotland, but he is in no mood to depart or to lapse into rocking-chair reminiscence about the good times of yesteryear.

If the beginning of his international career was delayed, McAllister is intent on deferring its conclusion, too. McAllister, 32, was not picked for any match at Italia 90 and is, therefore, eager, as captain, to shepherd the present Scotland team towards France so that, next year, he can play in the World Cup finals for the first time.

In discussion of his endangered club, Coventry City, it is evident that diligence, self-interest and patriotism have all fused together. "I have three years of my contract left," he said, "and, if Coventry can retain their premier division status, then I think I'll be good enough to keep going. You've got to be playing at a high level each week if you want to continue at international level."

McAllister can be as discriminating in his selection of the correct pass as he is in examination of his own motives. In the 2-0 victory over Austria earlier this month, he gave a significant performance and Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, finds in McAllister cause for satisfaction. The side's domination of group four, thus far, has been impressive.

Hubris is the national sin and, after severe punishment of it in the past, there is now a superstitious dread of any expression of hope. Brown, however, cannot help but announce a confidence that his men are capable of making themselves likely winners of the group by defeating Sweden, even though the Swedes were outlandishly unlucky to lose 1-0 in Scotland last year.

"They didn't have McAllister to contend with at Ibrox, because he was suspended then," Brown said. "He may find himself marked tonight, but I hope he is too majestic a figure to be troubled by Par Zetterberg. We have got to win the midfield battle and I think we can."

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	6	4	2	0	7	0	14
Austria	4	2	1	1	3	3	7
Sweden	4	2	0	2	7	4	6
Estonia	4	1	1	2	1	3	4
Belarus	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
Latvia	4	0	1	3	3	7	1

McAllister is abetted there by Paul Lambert, whose Borussia Dortmund side are in the European Cup final, and John Collins, who will shortly be part of the AS Monaco team as it clinches the French championship. Such is the prestige of the trio that Paul McStay, with his 76 caps, will have to tolerate a place on the bench.

Might this not be the moment to speculate that Scotland achieve good results because they have good players who have been organised by a good coach? Under-rated for so long, even Brown is now subject to reappraisal and features on all the notional lists of candidates to replace Tommy Burns at Celtic, should the club choose to dismiss its manager.

Were he ever to abandon his charges, Brown would still feel a pang of regret. Scotland have yet to concede a goal in group four, the midfield is adept and a partnership in attack has been found that is as pleasing as it is incongruous. For most of his life, the concept of Darren Jackson, of Hibernian, as international forward would have been scoffed at, and Kevin Gallacher is scarcely prolific for Blackburn Rovers.

Together, however, they supply a mobility and enthusiasm that ensure that they usually suffer exhaustion and have to be replaced near the end of each game. By then, as when Gallacher scored twice against Austria, much damage may have been done. Despite that, Scotland cannot swagger into the Ullevi Stadium tonight.

Sweden, in decline since reaching the semi-finals of the World Cup in 1994, see this as their last chance of recovery in the group and boldness is expected, with three forwards fielded. Thomas Ravelli, the Sweden goalkeeper, who will win his 138th cap, has been on the losing side against Scotland in three meetings in international tournaments, but, if Brown is correct, his longevity will only have preserved him for one further disappointment.

SWEDEN (4-3-3; probable): T Ravelli (IFK) — G Sundgren (AIK), P Andersson (Borussia Monchengladbach), J Bjorklund (Rangers), P Kamark (Leicester City) — J Thern (AS Roma), P Zetterberg (Anderlecht), S Schwarz (Fiorentina) — A Andersson (IFK), K Andersson (Bologna), M Dahlin (Borussia Monchengladbach)

SCOTLAND (3-5-2; probable): J Leighton (Hibernian) — C Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), C Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), T Boyd (Celtic) — C Burley (Chelsea), G McAllister (Coventry City), P Lambert (Borussia Dortmund), J Collins (AS Monaco), T McKinlay (Celtic) — D Jackson (Hibernian), K Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers).

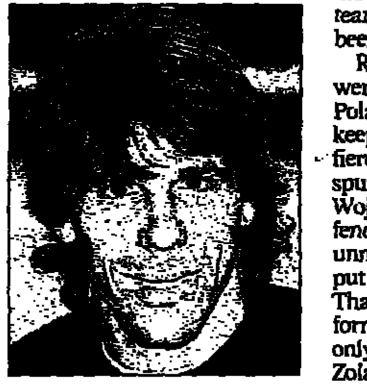
Brown: quietly confident

Premiership pair offer cutting edge

FROM BRIAN GLANVILLE IN NAPLES

IN A game against Poland here that Italy must win to retain pole position in their and England's World Cup group, they are likely to use a strike force of Gianfranco Zola and Fabrizio Ravanelli. There is still some doubt about the hamstring that Zola hurt a couple of weeks ago playing for Chelsea against Wimbledon, and Cesare Maldini, the Italy coach, has said that he will not pick him unless he is a 100 per cent fit. Nevertheless, the word is that Zola will start the match at least.

Yet how long will he stay at Chelsea? "I'm sure I'll remain in London next year," he has said, "but then we'll see. I am no longer a little boy and I want to finish my career in Italy. I've got a plan and I know what I want to do."



Zola: return

Ravanelli plays because Christian Vieri, who has done so well in his first two internationals, is unfit and Gigi Casiraghi, the Lazio centre forward, has only just returned to the field after a protracted absence. Zola and Ravanelli, however, have played together before, most memorably against Wales, last season, in the deep puddles at Terni.

For Zola, this is a romantic return to the stadium where he made his name, playing initially alongside Diego Maradona before succeeding him in the Napoli No 10 jersey.

"Naples is like that," he said, "it stays inside you. I played against Napoli at the San Paolo stadium with Parma. I threw flowers to their fans, who had appreciated me for four years. Thanks to this warmth, I, a player from the third division, a Mr Nobody, had the chance to shape myself, to grow, to reach the international team."

Otherwise, it is a question of rounding up the usual suspects — Costacurta as sweeper in the restored catenaccio defence, Ferrara and Cannavaro as markers, Di Livio, a winger, and Paolo Maldini, an attacking full back, on the flanks, Dino Baggio, Albertini and Di Matteo, of Chelsea, in midfield. Roberto Baggio, recalled after a 16-month absence and all his traumas with Arrigo Sacchi, Cesare Maldini's predecessor, standing by for Zola. Maldini said that he would not pick Baggio unless he was in the AC Milan team, where Sacchi has now been forced to recall him.

Recently, in Chorzow, Italy were lucky to survive against Poland. Peruzzi, their goalkeeper, untypically fumbled a fierce, low free kick. The ball spun up in the air, giving Wojtala, the tall Poland defender, what seemed an unmissable chance. Wojtala put his header over the bar. That was a dour Italian performance. The Azzuri had only one real strike at goal, Zola's.

In Naples, the script will be quite different, attack the inevitable theme. Antoni Piechniczek, the Poland coach, is tranquil. "The match? We know it won't be easy for us," he said. "The value of Italian football we see in the European cups, with two teams in the finals. Bringing back Baggio, Maldini has shown himself a great psychologist. We have little to lose. It is up to Italy to go for the win."

Poland are expected to play five in defence, with just Citko up front; Juskowiak has dropped out, injured. Skrzipek may again mark Zola, as he did in Chorzow.

ITALY: A Peruzzi; A Costacurta, C Ferrara, F Cannavaro, A Di Livio, D Baggio, R Di Matteo, D Albertini, P Maldini, G Zola, F Ravanelli

POLAND: A Wozniak; A Ledwon, P Wojtala, J Zielinski, P Skrzipek, H Baluszynski, T Waldoch, P Novak, P Swierczewski, M Citko, W Kowalczyk.

Kinkladze balancing act takes centre stage

MICHAEL CALVIN

catches a glimpse of a worrying sight for England at Wembley

Kinkladze goes through his repertoire at Wembley yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

A deserted Wembley echoes to the rituals of the recreation ground. The game is two-touch piggy-in-the-middle, and the ball falls to Georgi Kinkladze. He cushions it on his instep, caresses it with his studs, and, with a sudden snap of his right boot, flicks it up and over a bemused challenger. He giggles at his audacity, revels in the fleeting embarrassment that he has created in Georgia's final training session before the World Cup qualifying match against England tonight. There is a telling innocence to the scene, which offers a freeze-frame image of a man at ease with the talent that has transformed his life. He has a boy's face and a boyish nature.

Professional football, especially when it is endured in the Vaudevillian atmosphere of Manchester City, encourages suspicion of strangers, however. When it is time to leave, Kinkladze feigns a lack of English to ward off those who wish to question him about his self-proclaimed status as a spy in the English camp.

Perhaps he has taken note of David Kipiani, who faces his first competitive game as national coach after replacing Alexander Chivadze, his former Dynamo Tbilisi teammate. "Sure, he has been telling the players what it is like to play here," Kipiani said, "but I'd prefer it if they listened to me rather than Kinkladze.

"I tell you straight. We are talking too much about him. Everybody knows he is a star, but, if Kinkladze played alone tomorrow, he would not win, we would not win. The greatest players play for the team instead of themselves. I tell my team that is the most important thing."

Such words may appear sour and self-defensive in print, but they were delivered with warmth and a wicked grin. Kipiani, grey and bald, looks a generation older than his 46 years, but has the soft, full face and kind brown eyes of a clown. Though everyday life in a nascent republic demands pragmatism, he has a romantic's optimism.

He is comfortable with football's enigma variations. His faith in Kinkladze has survived the player's failure to respond to the physical challenge presented by David Batty in England's 2-0 win in Tbilisi last November. That timid performance underlined why others question his durability, his discipline.

That is the way of things in England, where, all too often, extravagant ability is not taken at face value. Call it the Le Tissier syndrome, an affliction that prompts observers to detect weakness in Kinkladze's balletic demeanour rather than to explore the advantages of his impeccable balance and instinctive skill.

He is small in stature, and does not appease his critics by possessing the muscular mobility of Gianfranco Zola, England's bête noire in this World Cup qualifying competition. He also lacks the stage that Chelsea offer Zola. Kipiani, for one, recognises the dangers of Maine Road being a no man's land of mediocrity.

"Kinkladze has improved in England," he said. "He has grown up as a player, both physically and tactically; but the problems at Manchester City, with the club staying in the first division, are not good for him."

Irrespective of Kinkladze's little local difficulty, the economic advantages of playing in England are compelling to other members of the 18-man squad. The Bosman-style "free transfer" package that will take Temur Ketsabia, a midfield player, from AEK Athens to Newcastle United in the summer has concentrated many minds.

Yesterday, Ketsabia refused to dwell on his impending move, preferring to concentrate on what he termed "the biggest game of my life". He fooled nobody with familiar noises about "the legend" of Wembley. His insistence that "we are all thrilled to play in the motherland of football" did not have the impact of stage whispers that suggested AC Milan will be watching Kinkladze tonight.

Kipiani saw no point in being disingenuous. "Why shouldn't players think of playing here?" he said. "International games are very important to those who want to write their names in football. Manchester City made their move for Kinkladze after watching him against Wales."

> 'An Englishman is a real gentleman. He never kicks you behind the referee'

It is not his concern that Michael Kavelashvili, a compatriot subsequently signed by City to ease the culture shock for Kinkladze, has struggled to impose himself on even the Nationwide League. The dangers of Eastern European exports entering an economic comfort zone are one of the few factors that an international manager does not have to take into account.

Kipiani's respect for the English game is genuine. He lost only once as a player in three European ties against English opposition, 5-1 against Tottenham in the 1973 Uefa Cup, and recites the names of his conquerers — "Chivers, Peters, Coates, England, Jennings ... ah, a great team" — like a mantra.

"I know English football well," he said. "I know how to play here. It is important not to be afraid. An Englishman gives everything, but he is a real gentleman. He never kicks you behind the referee." Kinkladze may have cause to think differently if Batty snaps at his heels tonight, but those who looked into the eyes of the piggy-in-the-middle yesterday will wait, and wonder ...

McCarthy looks forward to mission impossible

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON IN BUCHAREST

MICK McCARTHY, the Ireland manager, has always accepted that following in the revered footsteps of Jack Charlton was an impossible task. How could he equal, let alone improve on, the achievements of a figure who had assumed almost saintly status by the time he exchanged boot and ball for rod and line and retired to the riverbank?

Tonight, here in the Steaua Stadium, McCarthy would take a similar step along the path to deification if Ireland were able to defeat Romania in their group eight World Cup qualifying match. Even a draw would earn McCarthy an abundance of brownie points in a tie that, statistically and realistically, appears well beyond his side.

Already, Romania have one foot in the finals in France next year, having scored 19 goals and conceded none in the course of five successive victories. Anghel Iordanescu, the coach, draws his players from Europe's most distinguished clubs and is a firm believer in tactical enterprise — attack, attack and, if in doubt, attack some more. So far, it has proved unstoppable.

Privately, McCarthy may shudder at the prospect facing his innocents abroad. Publicly, he remains relaxed, with only a hint of pre-match edginess. "Romania are a good side, a very good side indeed," he said. "They play 'total football', they like to get forward as much as possible and the speed and variation of their passing will always cause problems. They perhaps lose their shape at times, which is something we might be able to take advantage of.

"Will they be cagey? I don't think so. They'll try to win it, just like all their other games, and they've obviously got the ability to do that. A draw would be a great result for us."

Defeat, with Romania going on to win the group comfortably, is likely, yet McCarthy will be looking for signs that Ireland are capable of emerging at the top of the three-cornered scrap for second place, which also involves Lithuania and Macedonia, and claiming the subsequent play-off berth. The route to France is still open.

Whatever the result, he also wants a more passionate, coherent display than that which surrendered the three points to Macedonia in a 3-2 loss in Skopje earlier this month. "Anyone who played in that game and was as hurt as they should have been will want the chance to rectify matters," McCarthy said. "That opportunity is now. I've had an excellent response in training, despite the usual interruption caused by injuries, and the players are ready for it. Although we'll have to be at our very best to get anything, I'm reasonably optimistic."

GROUP EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	5	5	0	0	19	0	15
Macedonia	6	3	1	2	18	10	10
Ireland	4	2	1	1	10	3	7
Lithuania	4	2	0	2	4	5	6
Iceland	4	0	2	2	1	7	2
Liechtenstein	5	0	0	5	2	29	0

ROMANIA (probable): B Stelea (Steaua Bucharest), D Petrescu (Chelsea), T Selymes (Anderlecht), D Prodan (Atlético Madrid), A Dobos (AEK Athens), G Popescu (Barcelona), D Munteanu (Cologne), G Hagi (Galatasaray), A Ilie (Galatasaray), V Moldovan (Grasshopper Zurich), I Vladoiu (Cologne)

IRELAND (probable): A Kelly (Sheffield United); D Irwin (Manchester United), G Breen (Coventry City), S Staunton (Aston Villa), I Harte (Leeds United), R Keane (Manchester United), G Kelly (Leeds United), R Houghton (Crystal Palace), A Townsend (Aston Villa), M Kennedy (Liverpool) D Connolly (Watford) or A Cascarino (Nancy)

Hamilton forced to experiment

BRYAN HAMILTON, the Northern Ireland manager, enters a largely academic World Cup qualifying contest with Armenia in Yerevan this afternoon shorn of seven players originally named in the squad, and with three others struggling through injury (David Maddock writes).

It is the perfect opportunity, then, for Hamilton to experiment and he will do so with at least three new faces against a side that held Northern Ireland to a 0-0 draw in Belfast in a qualifying match before the turn of the year.

James Quinn will play alongside Iain Dowie, of West Ham United, in a two-pronged attack, and Hamilton will also draft in John McCarthy, of Port Vale, who replaces the suspended Gillespie. Hamilton could even give a start to Jeff Whitley, 18, who has yet to break into the Manchester City team, givingan even fresher-faced look than usual.

GROUP NINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ukraine	5	4	0	1	6	3	12
Portugal	6	2	3	1	5	2	9
Germany	4	2	2	0	9	4	8
N Ireland	6	1	3	2	5	5	6
Armenia	4	0	3	1	3	7	3
Albania	5	0	1	4	3	10	1

Stockport set sights on division title

BY DAVID MADDOCK

NOWHERE can the champagne have flowed more deservedly this season than in the Stockport County dressing-room on Monday evening. The defeat of Chesterfield guaranteed automatic promotion to the Nationwide League first division — their highest placing since they spent one fleeting season in the old second division, way back in 1937-38.

Stockport have done it the hard way. They have endured a fixture list that would have had Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, scurrying to the European Court of Human Rights.

Their fixture pile-up, the product of a gloriously drawn out Coca-Cola Cup campaign, even saw them play four matches in one week. They did falter ominously, but somehow toughed out three games in the past week to win promotion.

David Jones, the manager, was still coming to terms with his side's success yesterday. "We enjoyed our cup run to reach a semi-final and to run Middlesbrough, with all their big-money stars, so close was a wonderful achievement" he said, "but the league was the only objective at the start of the season and, I must admit, I feared the cup would cost us that. It has been a hell of a programme and I can't credit my players enough for the manner in which they have come through it."

Jones has now set the target of winning the second division title — they have two more games this week to be won to pip Bury, the leaders — and, beyond that, survival in the higher division. Brendan Elwood, the Stockport chairman said: "We are not the struggling club that people used to make jokes about. We have a decent ground with plans for further development and we have a wonderful manager. There is plenty more to be heard of Stockport County."

While Stockport savour their success, Manchester United are looking to ensure that they enjoy more by securing a goalscorer. Ferguson will fly to Germany today to look at Andrei Shevchenko, the exciting 20-year-old Ukraine forward, who would cost United in the region of £3 million.

Everton look likely to sign Francesco Moriero, the Roma midfield player, in a free transfer in the summer.

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9/1 ENGLAND 2-0 | 10/1 ENGLAND 4-1
16/1 ENGLAND 2-1 | 9/1 DRAW 1-1
7/1 ENGLAND 3-0 | 22/1 GEORGIA 1-0
Other scores on request.

FIRST GOALSCORER
11/4 SHEARER (E) | 12/1 McMANAMAN (E)
5/1 FERDINAND (E) | 16/1 INCE (E)
8/1 BECKHAM (E) | 16/1 KINKLADZE (G)
12/1 ARVELADZE (G) | 20/1 ADAMS (E)
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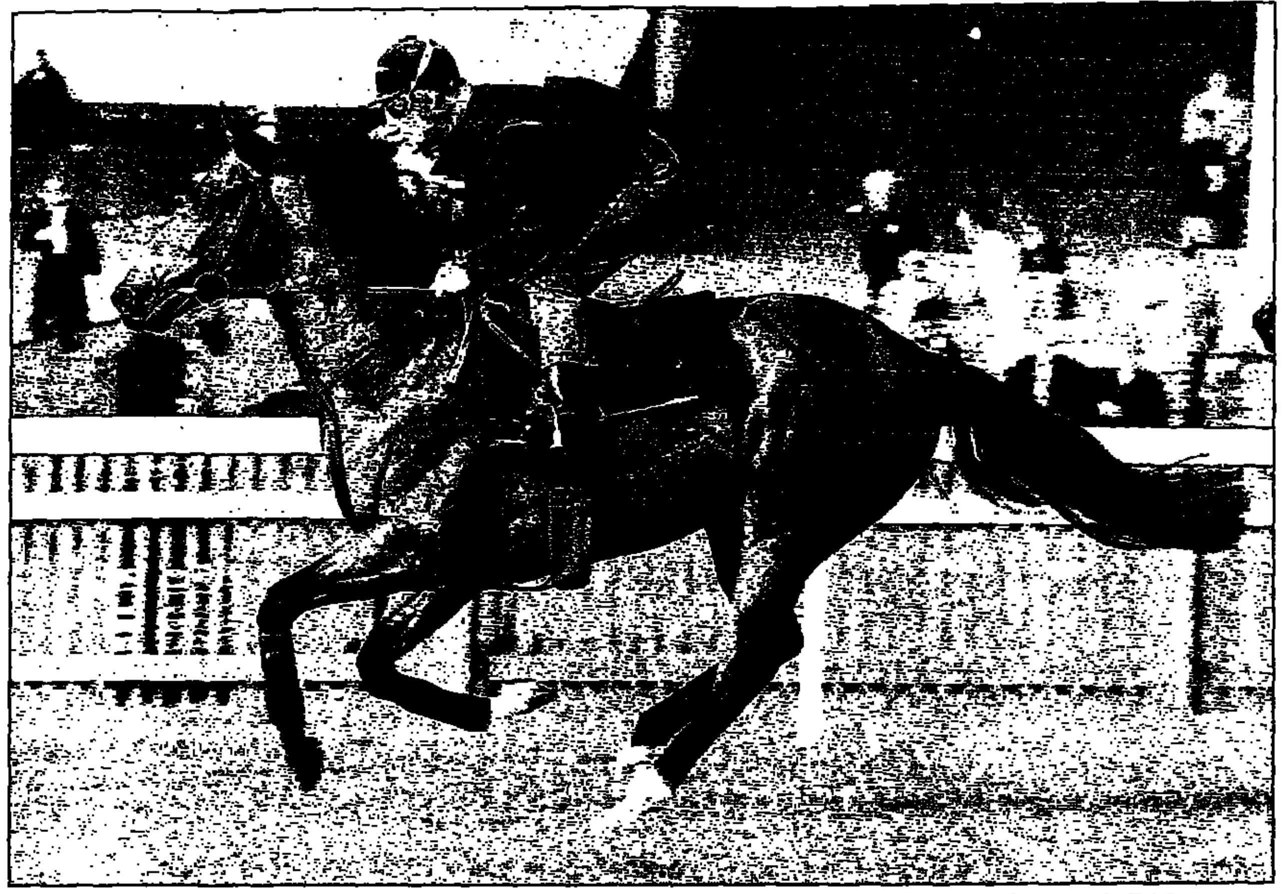
RACING: STOUTE RELUCTANT TO SPECULATE ON CLASSIC OUTCOME FOR HIS TALKING HORSE

Entrepreneur has plenty to prove

By Julian Muscat



Entrepreneur is put through his paces by Starkey in readiness for Saturday's 2,000 Guineas. Photograph: Ed Byrne

A SPATE of 2,000 Guineas candidates were in action on Newmarket Heath yesterday as trainers put the finishing touches to their contenders for the classic on Saturday. Poteen, Musical Pursuit and Yalaietanee — who remains a possible for the race — were all on show, but post-work discussion invariably centred on Entrepreneur.

This much-vaunted colt has bewitched the racing community since his participation was confirmed earlier this month. Some gallop-watchers were taken by his work with the useful Unitus yesterday. Others described it as no more than routine exercise in Greville Starkey's hands. Michael Stoute, who trains the colt, confined himself to the observation: "He just went five furlongs working in front, with the other horse following him up."

This bare expression of the facts has frustrated those seeking strains of encouragement for Entrepreneur's prospects. But Stoute's reticence, while central to his character, has been reinforced by the spectacular 2,000 Guineas plunge on Entrepreneur. He is reluctant to fuel the flames of something outside his control — much less champion a horse on evidence other than hard racecourse performance. In that respect, Entrepreneur, the winner of two small races last year, has much to prove.

Yet the circumstances speak favourably of Entrepreneur, whose pedigree accords him total dominance in betting on the Derby. Furthermore, his stablemates, Desert Story and Yalaietanee, annexed the principal 2,000 Guineas trials earlier this month. "He is a horse with a 12-furlong pedigree," Stoute said. "His full-sister (Dance A Dream) was second in the Oaks and his full-brother (Sadler's Image) has stakes class form at up to 13 furlongs. But we feel he is entitled to take his chance in the Guineas [one mile]."

While the evidence of Entrepreneur's relatives underlines his prospects of staying 12 furlongs, there is plenty of speed in his pedigree. His sire, Sadler's Wells, can get top-class milers — particularly from a source like Entrepreneur's dam, Exclusive Order, whose family has spawned plenty of precocious runners.

One thing is certain: Stoute has not scaled the peaks by running horses over unsuitable trips. The impression that Entrepreneur tackles the Guineas entirely on merit is endorsed by Stoute's reluctance to speculate towards the Derby. Asked if he would be pleased for the horse to finish full of running in third place on Saturday, he said: "That is a hypothetical question. Let's just see what happens and take it from there."

In other 2,000 Guineas developments, Kieren Fallon, who partners the Mark Tompkins-trained Musical Pursuit, had a feel of the colt for the first time yesterday. The Dewhurst Stakes winner went on at the end of his work with Cool Edge, prompting an upbeat assessment from his trainer. "Everything has gone smoothly and he has a good each-way chance."

Poteen, trained by Luca Cumani, should have had his confidence boosted when allowed to stride away from five stablemates. Yalaietanee also pleased in his spin, athough a decision on his participation — and that of stablemate Desert Story — remains on hold.

But the money yesterday was for Revoque, who has assumed outright favouritism from Entrepreneur with Ladbrokes and William Hill. Last season's champion juvenile has contracted to 7-2 from 4-1.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: WORLD PREMIER
(3.40 Ascot)
Next best: Delilah
(2.30 Ascot)

Time arrives for Witching Hour

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ASCOT

BBC2

2.30: Noisette shaped well on her debut at Haydock last September but meets four lightly raced fillies with useful form. Imperial Scholar's fifth to Reunion in the Nell Gwyn at Newmarket makes the best reading but she hung fire for most of the race. Delilah also showed signs of temperament when a tail-flashing second to Rebecca Sharp at the same meeting. **Witching Hour** seems more dependable. She trounced a field of maidens at Yarmouth last May and ran second to a good sort in Fernanda at York the following month.

BBC1

3.05: Double Trigger and Grey Shot, last year's principals, lock horns again, but the old guard of stayers is vulnerable to the emergence of fresh blood like **Jiyush**. He improved massively last season and his new trainer, Ed Dunlop, continues in good form.

The sort to make a strapping four-year-old, Jiyush will benefit from the likely strong pace and should be an each-way price. Election Day and Orchestra Stall are also improvers in an intriguing curtain-raiser to the cup racing season.

3.40: Cadeaux Tryst, whose form at a mile will stand him in good stead over this stiff seven furlongs, has the added advantage of a high draw among a preponderence of front-runners. He needed the run at Newbury and his jockey, Daragh O'Donoghue, is great value for a 3lb claim. Yeast, last year's winner, has a much stiffer task this time round, and World Premier and Tregaron make more appeal. Neuwest is well-handicapped but prefers a sharp track.

James Willoughby

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.30 Imperial Scholar	4.10 Occhi Verdi
3.05 Double Trigger	4.40 Nwaamis
3.40 Tumbleweed Ridge	5.15 Three Arch Bridge

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 **NEUWEST.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 **DELILAH** (nap). 3.40 Crumpton Hill. 4.10 Mijana.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robertson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.30 INSULPAK CONDITIONS STAKES

BBC2

(3-Y-O fillies: £8,134: 1m rnd) (5 runners)

101	(4)	1	FLAMBOYANCE 112 (G) (C Wills) J Fanshawe 9-0	D Harrison	81
102	(5)	12-	WITCHING HOUR 320 (S) (Greenbay Stables) Mrs J Cecil 9-0	Pat Eddery	81
103	(3)	3-2	DELILAH 14 (Highclere Racing) M Stoute 8-11	J Reid	75
104	(1)	2-5	IMPERIAL SCHOLAR 15 (M Kerr) J Eustace 8-11	R Cochrane	●
105	(2)	0-	NOISETTE 214 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-11	L Dettori	–

BETTING: 2-1 Imperial Scholar, 5-2 Delilah, 3-1 Witching Hour, 5-1 Noisette, 7-1 Flamboyance

1996: DISTANT OASIS 8-8 W Ryan (11-4) H Cecil 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

FLAMBOYANCE beat Selberry 7l in 9-runner maiden at Wolverhampton (AW, 7f). WITCHING HOUR 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Fernanda in conditions race at York (6f, good). DELILAH 3½l 2nd of 12 to Rebecca Sharp in maiden race at Newmarket (7f, good). IMPERIAL SCHOLAR best effort 1¼l 2nd of 6 to Desert Story in maiden at Newmarket (6f, good to soft) on penultimate start. NOISETTE 18l 7th of 10 to Myrtlebank in maiden at Haydock (1m, good).
Selection: DELILAH

3.05 INSULPAK SAGARO STAKES

BBC1

(Group III: £25,240: 2m 45yd) (8 runners)

201	(5)	245140-	GREY SHOT 176 (D,F,S) (J Smith) I Balding 5-9-3	L Dettori	87
202	(2)	0/11315-	DOUBLE TRIGGER 207 (CD,F,G,S) (R Huggins) M Johnston 6-9-1	J Weaver	●
203	(6)	12104-5	ELECTION DAY 11 (G,S) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 5-8-12	J Reid	94
204	(3)	6545/5/	GAROLO 13J (F) (Lady Lloyd Webber) C Brooks 7-8-12	R Hughes	–
205	(8)	12233-0	LORD JIM 11 (V,F,G,S) (Mrs S Thomas) Lord Huntingdon 5-8-12	D Harrison	87
206	(1)	41012-3	ORCHESTRA STALL 32 (D,BF,G) (D Sieff) J Dunlop 5-8-12	T Quinn	92
207	(7)	221100-	JIYUSH 180 (F,G) (H al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 4-8-9	R Hills	88
208	(4)	24126-2	WILAWANDER 39 (BF,S) (M al-Maktoum) B Hills 4-8-9	M Hills	92

BETTING: 2-1 Double Trigger, 5-2 Grey Shot, 4-1 Orchestra Stall, 7-1 Election Day, 8-1 Wilawander, 10-1 others

1996: DOUBLE TRIGGER 5-9-5 J Weaver (11-8 fav) M Johnston 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

GREY SHOT best effort beat Lear White head in 7-runner group II Energid Goodwood Cup at Goodwood (2m, good to firm) Aug 96. DOUBLE TRIGGER best effort beat Celeric 2l in 5-runner group III East Coast Doncaster Cup at Doncaster (2m 2f, good to firm), Sep 96. ELECTION DAY about 11½l 5th of 13 to Whitewater Affair in group III John Porter Stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, good to firm) with LORD JIM 24l 9th. ORCHESTRA STALL 3¾l 3rd of 5 to Sweetness Herself in conditions race at Haydock (2m, soft). JIYUSH beat Flocheck 5l in 8-runner handicap at Yarmouth (2m 2f, good to firm), Sep 96. WILAWANDER 6l 2nd of 6 to Sheer Danzig in conditions race at Doncaster (1m 4f, good to firm)
Selection: DOUBLE TRIGGER

3.40 INSULPAK VICTORIA CUP

BBC1

(Handicap: £22,568: 7f) (25 runners)

301	(25)	10010-2	YEAST 41 (CD,BF,F,S) (B Haggas) W Haggas 5-10-0	R Cochrane	93
302	(13)	26414-0	CADEAUX TRYST 11 (D,F,G) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 5-9-7	D O'Donohoe (3)	89
303	(1)	10060-3	EMERGING MARKET 14 (C,F) (P Wroughton) J Dunlop 5-9-4	K Darley	91
304	(18)	5-12022	CRETAN GIFT 11 (B,F,G) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 6-9-3	T G McLaughlin	90
305	(20)	410203-	KAYVEE 179 (C,D,F,G,S) (J Richmond-Watson) Mrs A Perrett 8-9-3	A Clark	94
306	(11)	51034-2	TREGARON 14 (C,BF,F) (D Heflin Jones) R Akehurst 6-8-13	T Quinn	90
307	(14)	2/46400-	RESOUNDER 208 (F,G) (Exors of H Allen) J Gosden 4-8-13	L Dettori	89
308	(16)	4500-03	WORLD PREMIER 30 (C,F,G) (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 4-8-12	B Doyle	91
309	(3)	12200-0	SAMWAR 12 (D,G) (Maygain Ltd) Miss G Kelleway 5-8-10	R Hughes	92
310	(22)	50550-1	CHICKAWICKA 14 (D,F,G,S) (Merthyr Auctions) B Palling 6-8-9	T Sprake	90
311	(7)	00/3313-	CRUMPTON HILL 263 (D,F,G) (T Chadney) N Graham 5-8-9	M Roberts	90
312	(9)	0003-38	TUMBLEWEED RIDGE 32 (B,D,BF,F,S) (Tumbleweed) B Meehan 4-8-8	Pat Eddery	98
313	(8)	1103-22	CHEWIT 32 (D,F,G) (Bellard Ltd) G L Moore 5-8-7	Candy Morris	95
314	(12)	1-26260	BOLD EFFORT 12 (V,F,G,S) (A Richards) K Cunningham-Brown 5-8-6	W Ryan	92
315	(2)	4071-00	PERSIAN FAYRE 30 (D,F,G) (M Grubb) J Berry 5-8-4	G Carter	90
316	(10)	60010-0	CHARLIE SILLETT 40 (D,F,S) (J Sillett) B Hills 5-8-2	Paul Eddery	92
317	(6)	512500-	MASTER CHARTER 207 (D,F,G) (J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-1	J F Egan	88
318	(15)	22230-2	ARTERXERXES 27 (D,F) (P Lowe Pins) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-1	S Drowne	90
319	(17)	0210-02	NEUWEST 9 (D,F) (P Green) N Walker 5-8-1	C Rutter	●
320	(19)	020-063	TILER 7 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Robinson) M Johnston 5-8-0	M Henry (3)	93
321	(5)	21032/1-	ANGEL CHIMES 362 (D,F,G) (G Prichard-Gordon) J Banks 4-7-10	R Mullen (5)	85
322	(23)	014332-	ZELDA ZONK 272 (D,F) (Mrs C Painting) B Meehan 5-7-10	J Quinn	90
323	(24)	0205-12	WAYPOINT 18 (D,BF,G) (R Richards) R Charlton 4-7-10	R Ffrench (5)	86
324	(21)	0-00505	TEA PARTY 27 (B,G) (A Richards) K Cunningham-Brown 4-7-10	P Fessey (5)	75
325	(4)	116324	DAWALIB 32 (D,F,G) (J Brown) D Haydn Jones 7-7-10	J Lowe	68

Long handicap: Angel Chimes 7-9, Zelda Zonk 7-9, Waypoint 7-6, Tea Party 7-0, Dawalib 6-4

BETTING: 8-1 Crumpton Hill, Tregaron, Yeast, Tumbleweed Ridge, 9-1 Emerging Market, 12-1 Master Charter, 14-1 Angel Times, World Premier, 16-1 Kayvee, Resounder, 20-1 others

1996: YEAST 4-8-9 R Cochrane (8-1) W Haggas 24 ran

FORM FOCUS

YEAST 4l 2nd of 6 to Canyon Creek in listed race at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). CADEAUX TRYST 7¼l 4th of 6 to Decorated Hero in listed race at Longchamp (1m, soft), Oct 96. EMERGING MARKET 6l 9th of 12 to Highborn in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good to firm) Oct 96. TUMBLEWEED RIDGE about 1l 3rd of 24 to Kuala Lipis in Lincoln handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm) with NEUWEST (4lb better off) 20l 19th. ARTERXERXES short-head 2nd of 8 to Plaisir D'Amour in handicap at Leicester (7f, firm). ANGEL CHIMES beat Golden Pond short-head in 11-runner handicap at Newmarket (7f, good to firm)
Selection: ARTERXERXES (nap)

4.10 GARTER CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £6,482: 5f) (9 runners)

401	(9)	1	BLUERIDGE DANCER 41 (D,F) (A Cundle) B Meehan 9-1	Pat Eddery	98
402	(5)	1	MIJANA 12 (D,F) (N Mourad) J Gosden 9-1	L Dettori	95
403	(6)	013	MIQUELON 13 (D,G) (P Savill) R Hollinshead 9-1	K Darley	85
404	(1)		HICKORY (G Steinberg) M Haynes 8-11	J Reid	–
405	(8)	2	THE BOY JOHN 14 (J R Leisure) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	93
406	(7)	0111	BANNINGHAM BLADE 9 (D,F) (Crown Select) K Ivory 8-10	Martin Dwyer	98
407	(4)	1	OCCHI VERDI 13 (D,F) (G Mitchell) M Johnston 8-10	J Weaver	95
408	(2)	25	CONECTIS 19 (BF) (Camelot Racing) D Cosgrove 8-6	G Carter	81
409	(3)	1	VAX RAPIDE 30 (D,F) (Vax Ltd) J Spearing 8-6	S Drowne	●

BETTING: 9-4 Occhi Verdi, 11-4 Blueridge Dancer, 4-1 Mijana, 9-2 Miquelon, 8-1 Vax Rapide, 10-1 others.

1996: SMOKEY PETE 8-8 J Reid (6-4 fav) R Hannon 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BLUERIDGE DANCER beat Mister Bankes 1½l in 15-runner conditions race at Doncaster (5f, good to firm) with MIQUELON 9l 7th. MIJANA beat Xenner 2½l in 8-runner novice race at Newbury (5f, good to firm). MIQUELON best effort beat Flower O'Cannie neck in maiden at Newcastle (5f, good) on penultimate start. BANNINGHAM BLADE beat Soft Touch head in 8-runner auction novice race at Brighton (5f 59yd, firm).
OCCHI VERDI beat Hirst Bridge 5l in 9-runner maiden at Ripon (5f, good to firm). VAX RAPIDE beat Mugello 1½l in 14-runner auction maiden at Warwick (5f, good to firm)
Selection: OCCHI VERDI

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
G Wragg	10	48	20.8	G Duffield	4	22	18.2
J Dunlop	24	132	18.2	L Dettori	29	197	14.7
R Akehurst	14	78	17.9	T Quinn	24	174	13.8
J Gosden	17	109	15.6	Pat Eddery	29	225	12.9
Mrs J Cecil	3	20	15.0	J Weaver	11	85	12.9
W Haggas	3	21	14.3	J Reid	25	197	12.7

4.40 CHOBHAM CONDITIONS STAKES

(£4,948: 1m rnd) (6 runners)

501	(4)	15-	GOLDEN ACE 337 (D,S) (G K Teo) R Hannon 4-9-1	Dane O'Neill	77
502	(6)	11111/0-	CAP JULUCA 316 (CD,F) (M Myers) R Charlton 5-8-12	R Hughes	–
503	(1)	350/348-	NWAAMIS 347 (S) (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 5-8-12	R Hills	●
504	(5)	100535-	WINTER ROMANCE 194 (D,S) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 4-8-12	D O'Donohoe (3)	97
505	(2)	5/3214-	CHARLOTTE CORDAY 294 (D,G) (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 4-8-10	M Hills	77
506	(3)	0/1	INTISAB 26 (F) (H al-Maktoum) B Armstrong 4-8-10	G Carter	84

BETTING: 11-4 Nwaamis, 3-1 Cap Juluca, 4-1 Winter Romance, 6-1 Golden Ace, Charlotte Corday, Intisab.

1996: TARAWA 4-9-8 R Hughes (5-4 fav) N Callaghan 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

GOLDEN ACE best effort beat Forza Figlio ¾l in 14-runner maiden at Newbury (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start. CAP JULUCA 12l 11th of 12 to First Island in group II Prince Of Wales's Stakes at Ascot (1m 2f, good to firm). NWAAMIS best effort about 1¾l 4th of 12 to Gabr in group II Sandown Mile (1m, good) on penultimate start, Apr 96. WINTER ROMANCE about 5½l 5th of 10 to Tarawa in listed race at Newmarket (1m 1f, good). CHARLOTTE CORDAY about 3l 4th of 13 to Freedom Flame in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good). INTISAB beat Malabi ½l in 6-runner maiden at Lingfield (6f, firm).
Selection: CAP JULUCA

5.15 WHITE ROSE STAKES

(Handicap: £7,783: 1m str) (30 runners)

601	(29)	510116-	Q FACTOR 190 (D,F,S) (H Collic) D Haydn Jones 5-9-12	C Rutter	92
602	(13)	34-1400	ZURS 14 (B,D,G) (N Dearman) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-12	K Fallon	95
603	(14)	443100-	ADMIRALS FLAME 200 (D,F,S) (Hintlesham Racing) C Wall 6-9-11	G Duffield	92
604	(1)	15/1242-	KING OF TUNES 313 (CD,G,S) (Mrs E Sheehan) J Sheehan 5-9-10	R Cochrane	90
605	(19)	4000-50	KRISCLIFFE 19 (F) (P Idris) G Lewis 4-9-9	R Hughes	93
606	(9)	301004	PUNKAH 11 (F,G) (McCourt Fine Meats) G McCourt 4-9-6	R Studholme (7)	85
607	(15)	035405-	PHONETIC 188 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 4-9-8	S Drowne	85
608	(26)	13020-4	DUELLO 18 (D,F,S) (H Promotions) M Blanshard 6-9-7	J Quinn	92
609	(3)	25/2000-	LYNTON LAD 336 (G) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 5-9-4	T Quinn	91
610	(23)	031230-	WHITE SETTLER 237 (F) (J Newsome) R Hodges 4-9-4	S Sanders	90
611	(30)	65/0-1	STAR OF RING 11 (F) (Mrs C Parker) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-4	M Roberts	93
612	(16)	04/30-	COURTING DANGER 78J (Miss E Gandolfo) D Gandolfo 4-9-4	M Fenton	68
613	(12)	6440-	FAMILY MAN 189 (Family Man Pins) J Fanshawe 4-9-4	D Harrison	86
614	(28)	0265-20	BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 18 (D,F,G) (R Marlow) B Millman 8-9-4	T Sprake	98
615	(6)	1600-10	SYLVAN PRINCESS 11 (D,F) (Camelot Racing) D Cosgrove 4-9-3	M Rimmer	91
616	(18)	111045	KINGCHIP BOY 7 (V,D,F,G) (Four Jays Racing) M Ryan 8-9-3	A Clark	97
617	(20)	54020-6	ALSAHIB 9 (S Channing-Williams) W Muir 4-9-1	J Reid	91
618	(5)	35-5000	SUEZ TORNADO 18 (V,D,G) (P Barry) E Alston 4-9-1	J Fortune	87
619	(22)	521250-	DUMMER GOLF TIME 200 (F,G) (Conolan Pins) Ld Huntingdon 4-9-0	Aimee Cook (5)	89
620	(4)	32040-2	IMPULSIVE AIR 30 (D,F,G) (T Southern) E Weymes 5-8-13	L Dettori	98
621	(27)	406100	THREE ARCH BRIDGE 11 (B,D,F,G) (R Pennell) M Johnston 5-8-13	J Weaver	●
622	(17)	56400-	LEAD HIM ON 282 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-8-12	G Hind	87
623	(2)	5413-0	MY BELOVED 18 (F) (P Hammond) R Hannon 3-8-12	Dane O'Neill	84
624	(24)	4400-61	SAFEY ANA 9 (D,F,G) (Optimists Pins) B Hanbury 6-8-12 (5ex)	W Ryan	94
625	(11)	1400-05	DOCTOR BRAVIOUS 9 (V,D,G) (L Gaucci) M Bell 4-8-11	G Faulkner (5)	89
626	(21)	20000-0	WINSTON 23 (D,F,G) (J Galvanoni) J Bethell 4-8-11	Paul Eddery	97
627	(7)	40-4302	MIMOSA 27 (D,F) (W Alexander) S Dow 4-8-9	A Daly (5)	93
628	(25)	00/0-0	ALFAHAAL 9 (C Sumner) R Johnson Houghton 4-8-6	R Hills	86
629	(8)	10/0000-	SEJAAL 218 (D,F) (J Snow) R Akehurst 5-8-6	R Perham	83
630	(10)	542203-	MISSILE TOE 183 (F) (Stag and Huntsman) D Morris 4-8-6	N Day	91

BETTING: 8-1 Impulsive Air, 10-1 Duello, 12-1 Admirals Flame, Mimosa, 14-1 Zurs, Sylvan Princess, Star Of Ring, 16-1 others

1996: TREGARON 5-9-3 T Quinn (5-1) R Akehurst 31 ran

FORM FOCUS

Q FACTOR best effort beat Princess Efisio short-head in 15-runner handicap at Chepstow (7f, soft) on penultimate start.
ADMIRALS FLAME best effort beat Hiladi head in 11-runner handicap at Windsor (1m 67yd, soft), Aug 96 with SEJAAL (21lb better off) 33l 10th. DUELLO best effort beat Knobbleeneeze ¾l in 13-runner handicap at Newbury (7f 64yd, soft) May 96, with LYNTON LAD (16lb better off) 23l 10th. STAR OF RING beat Serape 3½l in 11-runner maiden at Thirsk (7f, good to firm).
SYLVAN PRINCESS best effort beat MIMOSA (4lb better off) 1½l in 6-runner handicap at Leicester (1m, firm) on penultimate start. SAFEY ANA beat Czarna neck in 15-runner handicap at Brighton (1m, firm) with Doctor Bravious about 1l 5th and ALSAHIB (5lb better off) about 3l 6th.
Selection: DUELLO

☐ Richard Hughes received a five-day ban (May 8-12 inclusive) from the Nottingham stewards yesterday for using his whip above shoulder height and with excessive force on Baubigny in the Levy Board Handicap.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Bath

Going: good to firm

2.00 (1m 2l 46yd) 1, MAID OF CAMELOT (Pat Eddery, 5-4 fav); 2, Natural Eight (M Hills, 3-1); 3, Irsal (M Roberts, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Cowtharee, 14 North White Plains (ref to race), 16 Fantasy Girl (5th), Laurel Seeker, 25 Concidence, 33 Arthur's Seat (6th), 50 Copper Shell (4th), 66 First Man. 11 ran. ¾l, 9l, ¾l, 4l, 8l. R Charlton at Beckhampton. Tote: £2.60; £1.30, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £2.60. Trio: £6.30. CSF: £4.37.

2.30 (5f 11yd) 1, CAUDA EQUINA (P P Murphy, 3-1 fav); 2, Nopalea (S Sanders, 9-2); 3, Silver Lining (B Doyle, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Tear White (5th), 5 Littlestone Rocket, 12 Soon Quest, Dr Woodstock (6th), 16 Hi Mujtahid, 20 Whizz Kid (4th), 50 Our Drowsy Meggie. 10 ran. 1½l, nk, hd, ¾l, 2½l. M Channon at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £4.10; £1.70, £1.30, £1.50. DF: £10.10. Trio: £23.20. CSF: £15.70. Bought in 4,000gns.

3.00 (5f 11yd) 1, AVERTI (M Roberts, 16-1); 2, Dashing Blue (Martin Dwyer, 9-1); 3, Almaty (M Hills, 11-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Watch Me, 4 Crowded Avenue (5th), 10 Jermelle (5th), Repertory (4th), 12 Vax Star, 20 Anotherrunaway. 9 ran. Nk, 1¾l, 2l, nk, nk. W Muir at Lambourn. Tote: £18.80; £4.30, £2.30, £1.90. DF: £155.40. Trio: £87.00. CSF: £137.15.

3.30 (1m 2l 46yd) 1, BOLD ORIENTAL (Pat Eddery, 11-2); 2, Kosmo (M Henry, 10-1); 3, Time Can Tell (G McMown, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Incom (6th), 8 Protocol (4th), 12 Tartan Party, 14 Goodwood Lass, Here's To Howe, 16 Heart Of Armor (6th), 20 Eponine, 33 Miss Barcelona, Running Free. 12 ran. 2½l, ¾l, nk, 1¾l, 3½l. N Callaghan at Newmarket. Tote: £2.60; £1.40, £2.60, £2.00. DF: £14.90. Trio: £64.70. CSF: £15.54. Tricast: £150.55.

4.00 (5f 11yd) 1, INTIAASH (Pat Eddery, 8-1); 2, Flying Harold (M Adams, 10-1); 3, John O'Dreams (M Roberts, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Beau Venture, 9-2 River Tern, 5 Anokato, 10 Crystal Heights, 12 Tinker Osmaston (5th), 14 Tee-Emm (4th), 20 Bright Paragon (6th), 33 Sharp Shuffle, 50 Indian Wolf, Mister Sean. 13 ran. NR: Ed's Folly, Grey Kingdom. 3l, 1¾l, ½l, 2l, 1½l. D Haydn Jones at Pontypridd. Tote: £8.10; £3.00, £3.80, £3.50. DF: £43.10. Trio: £122.20. CSF: £93.48. Tricast: £444.11.

4.30 (5f 11yd) 1, BALLET RAMBERT (R Ffrench, 20-1); 2, Cloudberry (B Doyle, 7-2); 3, Whisky Mack (Pat Eddery, 6-5 fav). ALSO RAN: 7 Brandon Frank, 9 Europhen, 10 Summer River, 14 Donde Times (5th), Scene (4th), 16 Party Kid, 20 Solway Lass, 33 Sliss (6th). 11 ran. 3l, sh hd, nk, nk. M Heaton-Ellis at Wroughton. Tote: £21.70; £3.90, £1.50, £1.20. DF: £86.70. Trio: £33.50. CSF: £88.00.

5.00 (1m 3l 144yd) 1, LAST LAUGH (B Doyle, 25-1); 2, Pike Creek (Pat Eddery, 7-4 fav); 3, Hill Farm Dancer (R Mullen, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Rountaine (6th), 6 Mighty Phantom, 7 Profile Sophie (4th), 12 Alon Alwen, 14 Bronze Maquette (5th), 16 On The Wildside. 9 ran. 2½l, 9l, nk, 1¾l, ¾l. N Babbage at Cheltenham. Tote: £12.40; £2.80, £1.10, £2.70. DF: £22.90. Trio: £102.20. CSF: £63.48. Tricast: £452.08.

Placepot: £51.20. Quadpot: £142.20.

Nottingham

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.15 (6f 15yd) 1, SKYERS FLYER (N Connorton, 8-1); 2, Mystical (A Culhane, 7-2 fav); 3, Terry's Rose (W Ryan, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 8 Advance Repro, Gunners Glory (6th), Jib Jab, Municipal Girl, Rockaroundtheclock (5th), 10 Miss Peregrine (4th), 12 Blazing Castle, 20 Patrita Park, 25 Winey-La-Roche, 50 Stravano. 13 ran. NR: Docklands Carriage, Don't Forget Shoka, Heavenly Miss, Locksill, Major Twist. 4l, ½l, 2l, 1¾l, ½l. Ronald Thompson at Doncaster. Tote: £12.70; £3.00, £1.00, £2.90. DF: £36.40. Trio: £44.30. CSF: £36.51. Bought in 7,000gns.

2.45 (6f 15yd) 1, FAME AGAIN (J Fortune, 6-1 jt-fav); 2, Runs In The Family (D Harrison, 25-1); 3, Corniche Quest (R Hughes, 9-1); 4, Lachesis (C Teague, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 6-1 jt-fav Aybergirl, Legend Of Aragon, 7 Sharp 'n' Shady, 9 Time For Tea, 10 Divine Miss-P, 12 Ballard Lady (6th), 14 Delrob (5th), Robsc Girl, 16 Sing With The Band, 20 Al Rest, Rotherfield Park, 25 Cindy Kate, 33 April Jackson, Emmes Breeze. 18 ran. 3l, 2½l, ¾l, 2½l, nk. Mrs J Ramsden at Thirsk. Tote £8.10; £1.70, £5.10, £2.80, £8.10. DF: £194.10. Trio: £402.70. CSF: £158.76. Tricast: £1,308.42.

3.15 (5f 13yd) 1, RUSTY BABE (J Quinn, 10-1); 2, Young Ibnr (J F Egan, 7-1); 3, Prince Foley (D McGaffin, 7-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Blushing Victoria (5th), Santa Faye (4th), 5 O' Higgins, 6 Captain Jones, 10 Kantone, 20 Fey Rouge, 25 Swift Time, 33 Sweet Reward (6th). 11 ran. NR: Signatory. 2½l, nk, 2½l, nk, ¾l. *J Quinn at Melton.* Tote: £12.60; £3.60, £4.80, £1.60. DF: £81.60. Trio: £55.80. CSF: £80.53.

3.45 (1m 54yd) 1, CHANGE FOR A BUCK (K Fallon, Evens fav); 2, Epworth (G Carter, 12-1); 3, Enlisted (G Duffield, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sharkiyah, 6 Kilshanny (4th), 8 Amving (6th), 16 Persian Blue, 25 Cheek To Cheek, Doyenne, Oakbrook Rose, 33 Top Jem (5th). 11 ran. NR: Anchored In Love, Jude. ½l, 4l, 4l, nk, ½l. *H Cecil at Newmarket.* Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £3.50, £1.80. DF: £14.70. Trio: £47.50. CSF: £16.95.

4.15 (1m 54yd) 1, NIGHT CHORUS (M Fenton, 20-1); 2, Interdream (W J O'Connor, 12-1); 3, Mardrew (A Daly, 14-1); 4, Saffron Rose (R Cochrane, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Viva Verdi, 11-2 Baubigny, 7 Pennywell (6th), Princess Of Hearts, 8 Mungo Park, 10 Santa Rosa, 12 Castles Burning, 14 Banesbo (5th), 20 Brynkir, Calemander, Come Together, Push A Venture, 25 Hever Golf Dancer, 33 Lunar Music. 18 ran. Nk, ¾l, hd, 1l, 1l. B Rothwell at Warthill. Tote: £53.00; £7.50, £3.30, £4.20, £7.00. DF: £311.20. Trio: not won. CSF: £233.92. Tricast: £3,294.42.

4.45 (1m 1l 213yd) 1, STAR PRECISION (N Varley, 14-1); 2, Peppers (K Fallon, 7-1); 3, Scarlet Crescent (T Sprake, 10-1); 4, Agony Aunt (W Ryan, 11-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 jt-fav Princess Topaz, Rasayel (6th), 7 Tallulah Belle, 9 Mazilla, 12 Absolutelystunning, 14 Capilano Princess (5th), 16 *Polish Rhythm, 20 Pretty Sharp,* 25 Nellie North, 33 Credite Risque, Polar Refrain, 40 Daffodil Express. 16 ran. 2½l, 4l, 1¾l, 1¾l, nk. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £37.00; £8.30, £2.00, £2.10, £2.20. DF: £114.50. Trio: £329.60. CSF: £103.49. Tricast: £972.77.

5.20 (1m 6l 15yd) 1, SEA FREEDOM (A Clark, 8-1); 2, The Butterwick Kid (R Winston, 8-1); 3, Chabrol (A Daly, 14-1); 4, Charnwood Jack (R Price, 8-1). ALSO RAN: *4-1 fav Northern Drums, 7 He's Got Wings,* 8 Bowled Over, Dancing Cavalier (6th), 12 Forgie (5th), Narsong, 14 Sheriff, Tonnerre, 20 Arcady, Belmarita, Kalamata, Lalindi, Sushi Bar, 25 Heighth Of Fame. 18 ran. ½l, sh hd, 8l, 1¼l, 5l. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £12.80; £2.60, £3.00, £3.60, £1.70. DF: £127.20. Trio: £230.20. CSF: £71.60. Tricast: £868.59.

5.50 (1m 54yd) 1, Mansazil (R Hills, 7-1); 2, Sellette (11-4); 3, Ciro's Pearl (11-2). Chloe Nicole 7-4 fav. 13 ran. 3l, 3l. R Armstrong. Tote: £8.60; £4.00, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £18.10. *Trio: £44.80. CSF: £25.20.*

Jackpot: not won (pool of £20,143.06 carried forward to Ascot today).

Placepot: £766.00. Quadpot: £142.20.

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CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER

5.25 Broad Steane. 6.00 Cavalero. 6.35 Kettles. 7.10 Double Silk. 7.45 My Nominee. 8.20 Fantastic Fleet.

Carl Evans: 5.25 Vital Song. 6.00 Miss Millbrook. 6.35 Kettles. 7.10 Celtic Abbey. 7.45 Tinotops. 8.20 Nectanebo.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

5.25 EVESHAM MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £1,873: 2m 5f) (12 runners)

1	2/P1	AJ'S BOY 88P (F,S) Mrs T Hill 9-12-0	A Hill (3)
2	1F23	ARDBRENNAN 27 (F,G) J Porter 10-12-0	E James (7)
3	2325	BERRINGS DASHER 18 (F) Mrs J Richardson 10-12-0	M Watson (7)
4	13F4	BROAD STEANE 32 (BF,F,G,S) C Henn 8-12-0	A Sansome (5)
5	-33P	CLOBRACKEN LAD 48 (F,G) Mrs J Swaffield 9-12-0	G Barnes (7)
6	/121	DOUBLE THRILLER 38P (F,G) R Wildes 7-12-0	R Treloggen (3)
7	-54P4	ORTON HOUSE 11 (F,G) S Kelly 10-12-0	R Burton (7)
8	3-2F	TREVVEETHAN 52P G Smyly 8-12-0	M Rimell (3)
9	/P-2	VERY DARING 32P J Hunt 7-12-0	Miss S Sharratt (7)
10	12-2	VITAL SONG 41 (F,G) M Dare 10-12-0	G Matthews (7)
11	-P4P	WELL BANK 27P Mrs C Hicks 10-12-0	E Walker (7)
12	/12-	YQUEM 367P (S) A Varey 7-12-0	N R Mitchell (7)

3-1 Double Thriller, 9-2 Ardbrennan, 5-1 Broad Steane, AJ's Boy, 7-1 Vital Song, 8-1 Berrings Dasher, 10-1 Orton House, 12-1 Yquem, 14-1 others.

6.00 COLIN NASH MEMORIAL UNITED HUNTS CHALLENGE CUP HUNTER CHASE

(Amateurs: £2,232: 3m 1f 110yd) (7)

1	-P22	CAVALERO 39P (S) H Manners 8-12-3	A Charles-Jones (7)
2	3315	GLEN OAK 32 (F,G,S) D Duggan 12-12-3	J M Pritchard (7)
3	1PFP	HIGHWAY FIVE 11 (D,G,S) Lady Susan Brooke 9-12-3	M P Jones (7)
4	2112	HILL ISLAND 4P (F,G,S) C Sweeting 10-12-3	R Sweeting (7)
5	-P453	J B LAD 4P (G,S) H Tuck 11-12-3	Miss P Gundry (7)
6	2P40	TEATRADER 32 (F,G,S) Miss T Blazey 11-12-3	Miss T Blazey (7)
7	2P12	MISS MILLBROOK 8 (D,F,G,S) D Goldsworthy 9-11-12	E Williams (7)

2-1 Miss Millbrook, 3-1 Glen Oak, 4-1 Hill Island, 8-1 Teatrader, J B Lad, Cavalero, 16-1 Highway Five

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Wilkins, 5 winners from 7 runners, 71.4%; R Dickin, 4 from 39, 10.3%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: Mr R Thornton, 3 winners from 12 rides, 25.0%. Only qualifier.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 5.15 Suez Tornado, Zurs. Exeter: 5.00 Rory'm. Kelso: 6.50 Gale Ahead. Plumpton: 2.10 Castlebay Lad

6.35 WRAGGE & CO HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £4,260: 4m 1f) (10)

1	-335	YOUNG BRAVE 14 (C,F,G,S) Mrs A Young 11-12-7	M G Miller (7)
2	-142	LOYAL NOTE 51 (G,S) S Andrews 9-12-4	S Andrews (3)
3	4223	RUSTY BRIDGE 14 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Johnson 10-12-4	R Burton (7)
4	1136	THE MALAKARMA 14 (CD,F,G,S) Miss C Saunders 11-12-4	B Pollock (5)
5	3P46	ARTFUL ARTHUR 32 (G) L Grassick 11-12-0	J Grassick (7)
6	0354	K C'S DANCER 26 (C,F,S) R Dickin 12-12-0	J M Pritchard (7)
7	6352	LURRIGA GLITTER 18 (B) R Smith 9-12-0	R Wakley (7)
8	2PF6	MOBILE MESSENGER 56 (S) T George 9-12-0	Miss S Samworth (7)
9	0P13	SAINT BENE'T 30 (V,F,G) G Prodromou 9-12-0	A Coe (7)
10	-U31	KETTLES 22P (F,G,S) M Darvall 10-11-9	A Phillips (7)

5-2 Rusty Bridge, 3-1 The Malakarma, 6-1 Kettles, 7-1 Young Brave, 8-1 K C's Dancer, 10-1 Lurriga Glitter, Saint Bene't, 14-1 others

7.10 CHELTENHAM CHAMPION HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £4,026: 3m 2f 110yd) (4)

1	-151	DOUBLE SILK 14 (CD,F,G,S) R Wilkins 13-12-6	R Treloggen (3)
2	5P13	RYMING CUPLET 40 (C,D,F,G,S) M Trickey 12-12-3	L Jefford (7)
3	4312	SOME-TOY 14 (C,F,G,S) J Squire 11-12-3	Miss L Blackford (7)
4	-P4U	CELTIC ABBEY 23 (F,G,S) Miss V Williams 9-12-0	D S Jones (7)

4-7 Double Silk, 9-2 Some-Toy, 5-1 Ryming Cuplet, 8-1 Celtic Abbey

7.45 GOLDEN HARVEST HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £2,274: 2m 5f) (12)

1	1211	MY NOMINEE 11 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Nicholls 9-12-7	R Burton (7)
2	0/0	FIGHT TO WIN 5 (D,F,G) L Grassick 9-12-0	J Grassick (7)
3	4F44	FLOWING RIVER 21 (F,G) N Mitchell 11-12-0	N R Mitchell (7)
4	4-PP	FRANK BE LUCKY 11 (D,G,S) Ms B Ashby-Jones 11-12-0	R Thornton (3)
5	0203	GREAT POKEY 14P (F,S) Miss N Courtenay 12-12-0	Miss N Courtenay (7)
6	-UP3	GREENWINE 39P (F,G) M Trickey 11-12-0	Miss L Blackford (7)
7	3P/P	KNIFEBOARD 42 (S) P Hosgood 11-12-0	J M Pritchard (7)
8	5-4P	LEIGH BOY 32P (F,G,S) D Duggan 11-12-0	N H Oliver (7)
9	4042	DRUID 30P Miss C Gordon 9-12-0	A Hill (3)
10	-36U	SIMPLY PERFECT 11 (G,S) J Swindells 11-12-0	Miss K Swindells (7)
11	5321	TARA BOY 30P (D,F,G) R Teague 12-12-0	R Cambray (7)
12	2311	TINOTOPS 42 (F,G,S) Mrs R Vickery 7-12-0	Miss S Vickery (7)

5-4 My Nominee, 5-2 Tinotops, 10-1 Tara Boy, 12-1 Frank Be Lucky, 14-1 Flowing River, Druid, 16-1 others

8.20 OVERBURY HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £2,190: 2m 110yd) (5)

1	-0P2	FAMILIAR FRIEND 30 (B,D,F,S) S Gilmore 11-12-7	L Lay (7)
2	04/1	NECTANEBO 25 (D,F) N Parker 9-12-4	M Frith (7)
3	PU32	PRO BONO 11 (F,G) A Morgan 7-12-4	A Sansome (5)
4	06P/	MASTER CRUSADER 744 (G,S) D Williams 11-12-0	S Durack (7)
5	PU11	FANTASTIC FLEET 24P (F,S) Mrs J Webber 5-11-8	R Thornton (3)

7-4 Nectanebo, 9-4 Pro Bono, 7-2 Familiar Friend, 4-1 Fantastic Fleet, 16-1 Master Crusader

KELSO

THUNDERER

5.45 American Hero. 6.15 Lumback Lady. 6.50 Hurricane Andrew. 7.25 Well Appointed. 8.00 Across The Card. 8.30 Stylish Interval.

Carl Evans: 8.00 Across The Card.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

5.45 SUNLAWS MOET & CHANDON NOVICES CHASE (£3,420: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

1	F/11	AMERICAN HERO 13 (CD,F,G) R Allan 9-11-10	B Storey
2	F112	SINGING SAND 13 (F,S) P Monteith 7-11-10	R Dunwoody
3	3153	BOLD ACCOUNT 46 (G) G Moore 7-11-5	M Foster
4	-3FP	KINCARDINE BRIDGE 7 (F) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-0	Mr M Bradburne (7)
5	-P00	NOBODYS FLAME 26 S Pittendrigh 9-11-0	G Cahill
6	P/P4	SUPERMARINE 16 B Mactaggart 11-11-0	G Lee

5-4 American Hero, 7-4 Singing Sand, 6-1 Bold Account, 12-1 Nobodys Flame, 14-1 Kincardine Bridge, Supermarine.

6.15 SCOTSMAN MAIDEN HURDLE

(£2,899: 2m 110yd) (14)

1	1F32	CARLISLE BANDITO'S 54 (F) J Berry 5-11-5	D Parker
2	0353	CAUGHT AT LAST 18 Mrs M Reveley 6-11-5	G Cahill
3	4004	DONT FORGET CURTIS 18 Mrs K Lamb 5-11-5	Miss S Lamb (7)
4	P-05	HAND OF STRAW 7 Miss Z Green 5-11-5	K Johnson
5	65U0	I'M TYSON 18 Mrs D Sayer 9-11-5	R McGrath (5)
6	20P0	JAUNTY GENERAL 13 C Parker 6-11-5	R Supple
7	0P	POLAR WIND 16 N Waggott 8-11-5	R Garritty
8	S000	TEDDY EDWARD 172 Mrs A Naughton 7-11-5	Mr T J Barry (7)
9	F006	AMBER HOLLY 16 J Dixon 8-11-0	F Perratt
10	00	LOST IN THE POST 21F C Thornton 4-11-0	M Foster
11	2240	LUMBACK LADY 7 B Mactaggart 7-11-0	B Storey
12	00	RESPECTING 56 J Moore 4-11-0	N Smith
13	C	TOPUP 26 M Barnes 4-11-0	S Taylor (5)
14	0	DUNNELLIE 16 M Barnes 4-10-9	T Reed

6-4 Carlisle Bandito's, 5-2 Caught At Last, 7-1 Hand Of Straw, 8-1 Dont Forget Curtis, Jaunty General, 10-1 I'm Tyson, 12-1 others

6.50 MASON ORGANISATION CENTRE ATTRACTION HANDICAP CHASE (£3,987: 3m 1f) (11)

1	1230	ROYAL VACATION 15 (CD,BF,F,G) G Moore 8-12-0	J Callaghan
2	2F33	WESTWELL BOY 18 (D,F,G) P Beaumont 11-11-1	R Supple
3	P340	WHAAT FETTLE 23 (CD,F,G,S) G Richards 12-11-1	R Dunwoody
4	2525	GALE AHEAD 23 (B,CD,F,G) G Moore 7-10-10	M Foster
5	600P	SIDE OF HILL 83 (CD,F,S) B Mactaggart 12-10-6	G Lee
6	4250	LAST REFUGE 57 (F,S) T Carr 8-10-2	T Reed
7	1PP3	HURRICANE ANDREW 23 (D,F,G,S) J Moore 9-10-1	N Smith
8	U12P	RUNWAY 7 (F,G,S) M Barnes 7-10-0	B Storey
9	0/0U	JAUNTY GIG 18 (B,D,F,G) J Birkett 11-10-0	L O'Hara
10	2F54	FORWARD GLEN 23 (B,F) P Cheesbrough 10-10-0	Mr R Bevis
11	5832	WILLIE SPARKLE 49 (F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 11-10-0	G Cahill

3-1 Westwell Boy, 7-2 Royal Vacation, 5-1 Whaat Fettle, Gale Ahead, 7-1 Hurricane Andrew, 10-1 Side Of Hill, 12-1 Last Refuge, 16-1 others.

7.25 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,788: 2m 110yd) (7)

1	1114	STASH THE CASH 7 (C,D,F,G,S) M Hammond 6-12-0	R Garritty
2	5111	GLENUGIE 16 (CD,F,S) G Moore 6-11-3	N Bentley
3	3-4P	ASTRALEON 7 (CD,F,G) R Allan 9-10-13	B Storey
4	4021	WELL APPOINTED 23 (CD,F) B Mactaggart 8-10-6	G Lee
5	03-0	LIXOS 56 (D,G) W Storey 6-10-4	M Moloney
6	F302	KILLBALLY BOY 23 (D,G) J Johnson 7-10-0	C McCormack (7)
7	4123	RAGAMUFFIN ROMEO 161 (D,F,G) S Pittendrigh 8-10-0	G Cahill

2-1 Glenugie, 3-1 Stash The Cash, 9-2 Well Appointed, 6-1 Killbally Boy, 7-1 Ragamuffin Romeo, 12-1 Astraleon, 14-1 Lixos

8.00 CHARLIE BROWN UNITED BORDER HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,469: 3m 1f) (6)

1	2210	ACROSS THE CARD 6 (D,F,G,S) C Ramsay 9-12-4	M Bradburne (7)
2	-535	GREEN TIMES 12 (D,G,S) C Ramsay 12-11-12	C Storey (5)
3	P03P	RUSTY BLADE 6 (G) P Monteith 8-11-12	R Hale (5)
4	4-22	SHINE A LIGHT 30P A Dickman 7-11-12	Capt A Ogden (7)
5	-0P2	SOVEREIGNS MATCH 29 I Nichol 9-11-12	N Wilson (5)
6	1362	WASHAKIE 30P (BF,F,G,S) F Walton 12-11-12	J Walton

9-4 Washakie, 5-2 Sovereigns Match, 4-1 Across The Card, 6-1 Shine A Light, 7-1 Green Times, 8-1 Rusty Blade.

8.30 LOTHIAN PLUMBING HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,745: 2m 6f 110yd) (6)

1	45-P	PARSONS BRIG 11 (D,F,G) J Haldane 11-12-0	Miss S Forster
2	12FP	COQUI LANE 13 (CD,G,S) J Dun 10-11-13	D Parker
3	5133	SUPERTOP 12F (F,G) L Lungo 9-11-7	W Dowling (7)
4	-433	COLORFUL AMBITION 140 (F) Mrs A Swinbank 7-10-12	J Supple
5	0102	STYLISH INTERVAL 18 (C,F) N Waggott 5-10-2	R Supple
6	23UR	VERY EVIDENT 17P (G,S) A Whillans 8-10-0	S Taylor (5)

7-4 Stylish Interval, 11-4 Supertop, 4-1 Parsons Brig, 6-1 Colorful Ambition, 8-1 Coqui Lane, 12-1 Very Evident.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 38 winners from 128 runners, 29.7%; Mrs A Swinbank, 5 from 20, 25.0%; G Richards, 26 from 120, 21.7%; G Moore, 13 from 60, 21.7%; M Hammond, 23 from 109, 21.1%; J Johnson, 16 from 84, 19.0%

JOCKEYS: Mr M Bradburne, 5 winners from 14 rides, 35.7%; Mr C Storey, 6 from 25, 24.0%; J Callaghan, 12 from 60, 20.0%; R Garritty, 10 from 53, 18.9%; M Moloney, 13 from 71, 18.3%; B Storey, 29 from 182, 15.9%

Dobbin returns to saddle

TONY DOBBIN returns on Friday keen to end his best season in style. He will resume riding at either Sedgefield or Bangor, having been on the sidelines since breaking a collarbone at Hexham seven days after his Grand National victory on Lord Gyllene.

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10/1	Crumpton Hill	25/1	Waypoint
10/1	Yeast	28/1	Chewit
11/1	Master Charter	28/1	Tiler
16/1	Angel Chimes	33/1	Bold Effort
16/1	Cadeaux Tryst	33/1	Cretan Gift
16/1	Chickawicka	33/1	Persian Fayre
16/1	Neuwest	33/1	Zelda Zonk
16/1	Samwar	100/1	Dawalib
20/1	Charlie Sillett	100/1	Tea Party
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SNOOKER

Doherty comeback puts Higgins under pressure

By Phil Yates

KEN DOHERTY, on the receiving end of three heavy defeats at the hands of John Higgins, repaired early damage to ensure that he will enter the concluding two sessions of their quarter-final in the Embassy world championship on level terms at 4-4.

Doherty has never performed particularly well at the Crucible Theatre, or indeed against Higgins, but, by overwhelming Steve Davis 13-3 in the last 16 on Monday, he gave himself an immeasurable boost in confidence.

Yet, when Higgins exploited Doherty's initial vulnerability to lead 3-0. Doherty, soundly beaten 9-3 by Higgins in the final of the 1995 German Open and the semi-finals of the United Kingdom championship this season, appeared in trouble.

This hole became deeper when Higgins, who also whitewashed Doherty 5-0 at the 1995 International Open, occupied prime position in the fourth frame. However, he presented Doherty with a lifeline by missing a routine red with the rest and sat out a 58 break as a consequence.

Doherty, who also stole the sixth on the black with a 65 clearance after trailing 50-1, eventually accounted for three of the remaining four frames and left the arena feeling far more satisfied with the outcome than his rival.

James Wattana, of Thailand, whose pre-championship form suggested that any hopes of becoming only the second overseas player to capture the title were forlorn, built a 5-3 overnight lead against John Parrott.

A clearance of 129 represented the ideal start for Parrott, but Wattana won four of five frames after trailing 2-1.

Maintaining the determination that enabled him to edge Ronnie O'Sullivan 13-12 in the previous round, Darren Morgan held a 5-3 lead over Stephen Hendry, the title-holder. With the exception of a mid-session burst, Hendry's display was lacklustre.

Morgan, having found great self-belief at the end of a season in which he has had precious little, settled down quickly with contributions of 52 and 84 to win the first two frames before an unforced error swung the momentum in favour of Hendry.

Leading 28-8 in the third, and handily placed in the reds, Morgan overstretched and missed one to a corner pocket. Hendry made a 97 clearance, tied the scores at 2-2 with a 47 break launched by a spectacular plant and moved 3-2 ahead by taking the fifth.

Importantly, Morgan arrested Hendry's march. He tactically controlled the sixth and won the seventh with a break of 77 when Hendry suffered a "kick" that caused him to miss a red to a middle pocket.

Hendry failed to score in the closing frame of the morning — he had a total of only 19 points in the last three.

☐ The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, the game's governing body, yesterday announced that the number of world ranking tournaments will be reduced from ten to eight for the 1997-98 campaign. The casualties next season will be the European Open, staged in Malta for the past two years, and the Asian Classic.

DETAILS

SECOND ROUND (best of 25 frames): J Wattana (Thai) bt S Lee (Eng) 13-7, J Higgins (Scot) bt D Dale (Wales) 13-5.

QUARTER-FINALS (best of 25 frames): D Morgan (Wales) leads S Hendry (Scot) 5-3; A Robidoux (Can) level with L Walker (Wales) 4-4; K Doherty (Ire) level with Higgins 4-4; Wattana leads J Parrott (Eng) 5-3

TELEVISION: BBC1: 11.35am and 2.10pm. BBC2: 4.0pm and 7.45

TABLE TENNIS

Deng leads China to familiar triumph

By Richard Eaton

DENG YAPING, the world and Olympic champion and one of the sport's all-time greats, could soon retire after helping China's women to the team title at the world championships in Manchester yesterday.

"I plan to see if our young players are good enough to replace me before deciding whether or not to play another championships," Deng, 24, said after leading China to a 3-0 defeat of North Korea. The progress of Yang Ying, 21, and Li Ju, 22, who supported Deng's brilliant hitting and countering, may well influence that decision.

This was the Chinese women's eleventh victory in 12 championships — their only failure coming in 1991, when North Korea and South Korea united to win the event — and ensured they cleared the first of seven hurdles that stand between them and retaining all their world titles.

China's progress to defending the men's crown was also impressive, although their 3-1 semi-final win over South Korea contained a defeat for the world champion, Kong Linghui, against Yoo Nam-Kyu.

England, by beating Holland 3-2, with two wins for Carl Prean, gave themselves the chance of playing for thirteenth place in the men's event, against Italy. Katy Parker, the 12-year-old who is about to become the youngest English player to play in a world championships, makes her debut in the mixed doubles today.

SIMON WILKINSON

Walkington proudly shows off the Cup after Hunslet's victory in 1934 and, right, the victorious captain as he is today

Clubs still rising to the challenge

Christopher Irvine looks back over 100 years of rugby league's showpiece final

Substitutions were 30 years off in the 1934 Challenge Cup final. Jack Walkington knew the worst had happened after he had sent Cyril Morrell galloping clear on an overlap. In crashing over the line, Morrell shattered his collarbone. A player down for an hour, Walkington's inspiring words and leadership were, in many ways, responsible for Hunslet's 11-5 defeat of Widnes. The captain's message was simple: "Get stuck in, and, above all, retain possession."

Widnes were barely allowed a sniff of the ball in the second half and Hunslet completed a remarkable victory. Walkington, now 88, is the only survivor of that 1934 final. Indeed, he is the oldest player left of any of the previous finals. Certain details remain sharp in his mind, though: a £2 raise for winning, pre-match roast beef, Dolly Dawson's charging drives, the presentation of the trophy by Lord Derby and celebrations on the team's return at the new Leeds Civic Hall.

"Even in those days, Wembley was a big thing, a special day," Walkington said. "I remember it as big and wide, even more so when we only had 12 men. They talk about fitness today, but we were as fit as we could be then. The game is more open now and it was less of a spectacle then."

Hunslet are back at Wembley on Saturday, with a chance of echoing distant glories in the Plate final, against Hull Kingston Rovers.

Two decades before the annual pilgrimage from the North to Wembley, the 1907-08 Hunslet team, which contained the great Goldthorpe brothers, Albert and Walter, won the Cup in the first clean sweep of all the trophies — a feat emulated by Huddersfield, in 1914-15, and 80 years later by Wigan, whose Cup record is unparalleled: 16 victories, nine defeats.

St Helens, Wigan's arch-rivals, were one of the inaugural finalists and the centenary final, against Bradford Bulls, is their fifteenth appearance. Batley, the opposition at Headingley in 1897, were a power in the new Northern Union, the breakaway formed two years before. The trophy, still played for today, cost £60 from Fattorini Silversmiths, of Bradford. Batley won it with a 10-3 victory.

Wigan, slow starters in the competition, first won in 1924 and again, five years later, at Wembley, a contentious move south prompted by the growth of the Challenge Cup.

Although it quickly became synonymous with the final, Wembley crowds were dwarfed by the official world record 102,569 attendance at Odsal. (unofficial estimates put it at 120,000) for the 1954 replay between Warrington and Halifax.

Rugby league was enjoying great post-war popularity and thrived on parochialism, its innate sense of community and legendary playing families. The Fox brothers, from the Yorkshire mining village of Sharlston, epitomised the pride and pain of the Cup.

Was there a sharper, more powerful centre than the prodigious Neil Fox, a three-times winner with Wakefield Trinity in the Sixties? A moment as inspired as that when Peter Fox coached a team of Featherstone miners to triumph in 1973? Or one as agonising as the miss from in front of the posts by Don Fox that cost Wakefield victory against Leeds in the 1968 final?

Alex Murphy, the most complete footballer of his or any generation, is inextricably linked with Wembley, as the winning captain of St Helens (1966), Leigh (1971) and Warrington (1974) and as a four-times loser as a coach, notably with Wigan, in 1984. When Wigan beat Hull 28-24 in an epic final the next year, the earlier dominant years of Widnes and Hull were soon to pale into insignificance.

Wigan tore Halifax to pieces in the 1988 final. All comers suffered a similar fate up to 1995, but the unthinkable occurred in the fifth round at Salford, on February 11, 1996 — a 26-16 defeat that halted a run of 43 unbeaten Cup games.

An intoxicating final 12 months ago, rich in scoring records, ensured that Wigan were not missed. Like the unfortunate Don Fox, 28 years before, Robbie Paul, of Bradford, was the Lance Todd Trophy-winner and on the losing side in a 40-32 defeat by St Helens. Even so, becoming the first finalist to score three tries, Paul is already part of Cup folklore. If the centenary final is half as good as last year's, Saturday will be worth celebrating.

Elliott goes in search of winning formula for Bulls

By Christopher Irvine

BOTH Challenge Cup finalists have delayed announcing their teams, St Helens to give Alan Hunte every possible chance of recovering from a hamstring tear and Bradford Bulls because of indecision over their best permutation at half back.

Although Glen Tomlinson has played all but one game at scrum half for Bradford this season, Matthew Elliott, the Bulls coach, is considering moving Robbie Paul there to play alongside Graeme Bradley — the same combination used in the defeat by St Helens at Wembley last year. Tomlinson would be on the bench to provide insurance cover.

Tomlinson's recent form has slipped and the Paul-Bradley axis is a proven one, most notably in the semi-final defeat of Leeds Rhinos. "We've got a lot more depth across the park this year," Elliott said. "I've got some hard decisions in the next couple of days. I've only lost one night's sleep thinking about it."

If, as expected, Hunte does not make the final, St Helens will be without not only their "form" player. They will be deprived of a lot of the speed factor that makes them narrow favourites. With the Welsh Union (WRU) apparently having a hand in blocking the proposal by Scott Gibbs to fill the breach for his former club, Andy Haigh is favourite for the right centre position, ahead of Vila Matautia.

Until the WRU stepped in, there was a possibility that Swansea would have temporarily released Gibbs for a rental fee, even though it would have meant him missing their match against Neath, which is vital to their prospects of qualifying for the Heineken Cup next season. Gibbs is hoping that a deal can be agreed by which he can play a summer stint with St Helens next year.

John Monie, the former Wigan coach, has parted company with Auckland Warriors after defeats in six of nine matches in the Australasian Super League. Rather than returning to Central Park, he is expected to take a rest from the game.

EXETER

THUNDERER

2.20 Killing Time. 2.55 Colonel Blazer. 3.30 Spring To It. 4.00 Mr Conductor. 4.30 **MYSTIC HILL** (nap). 5.00 Contract Bridge.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.20 PORTMAN FIXED INTEREST BOND NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,768: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

1 1U05 KILLING TIME 14 (C,F,S) D Burchell 6-12-0 D J Burchell 97
2 0F04 CHILI HEIGHTS 15 (V) K Bishop 7-11-0 M Griffiths (7)
3 4 COUNTRY COUSIN 83 (BF) P Nicholls 5-11-0 L Cummins (7) —
4 PPP6 MIRAMARE 21 R Hodges 7-11-0 J Harris (7) —
5 P0 MOOR DUTCH 69 R Frost 6-11-0 J Frost —

5-4 Killing Time, 11-4 Chili Heights, 4-1 Country Cousin, 5-1 Miramare, 25-1 Moor Dutch.

2.55 ROYAL NAVY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,368: 2m 2f) (5)

1 -01P COLONEL BLAZER 12 (G,S) Miss H Knight 5-11-7 J F Titley
2 56 BLOWING ROCK 104 Miss H Knight 5-11-0 J Culloty —
3 0/0 FOOLS FUTURE 11 Mrs J Retter 8-11-0 M A Fitzgerald —
4 0 LIZZYS FIRST 74 B Millman 5-11-0 D Salter (5) —
5 MR CELEBRATION N Gaselee 6-11-0 C Llewellyn —

4-7 Colonel Blazer, 4-1 Blowing Rock, 5-1 Mr Celebration, 14-1 Lizzys First, Fools Future

3.30 PORTMAN FINANCIAL PLANNERS NOVICES CHASE (£4,117: 2m 7f 110yd) (7)

1 P331 SPRING TO IT 15 (CD,F,G) M Pipe 11-11-8 D Walsh
2 4ULU DUNLIR 18 (F) P Rodford 7-11-2 M Sharratt —
3 003P OTTER PRINCE 55 T George 8-11-2 Mr R Thornton (3) —
4 P43D RUSTIC FLIGHT 18 L Waring 10-11-2 M Griffiths (7) —
5 056F THUNDER ROAD 86 Miss H Knight 6-11-2 J Culloty 88
6 2P/6 SEACHEST 169 Miss V Stephens 8-10-11 S Burrough —
7 3 SOMETHING CATCHY 25 A Barrow 7-10-11 W Marston 73

Evens Spring To It, 9-2 Thunder Road, 6-1 Something Catchy, 8-1 Rustic Flight, 10-1 Dunlir, 12-1 Otter Prince, 16-1 Seachest

4.00 PORTMAN INSTANT ACCESS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,844: 2m 3f 110yd) (5)

1 3312 MR CONDUCTOR 30 (F,G) R Alner 6-11-10 M A Fitzgerald 90
2 3323 LACKENDARA 32 (C,BF,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 10-11-2 J Culloty
3 1432 HENLEY REGATTA 15 (CD,F) P Rodford 9-10-10 S Burrough 98
4 U514 BISHOPS CASTLE 28 (C,F,G,S) R Frost 9-10-6 J Frost 92
5 5015 RUSTIC GENT 14 (F,S) D Burchell 9-10-0 D J Burchell 76

6-4 Mr Conductor, 9-4 Lackendara, 7-2 Henley Regatta, 6-1 Bishops Castle, 14-1 Rustic Gent.

4.30 PORTMAN FIXED RATE MORTGAGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,528: 2m 3f 110yd) (6)

1 -300 BELL ONE 68 (C,F) A Dunn 8-11-10 S McNeill 90
2 4412 MYSTIC HILL 14 (BF,F) R Frost 6-11-3 J Frost 92
3 6-00 SHEEP STEALER 51 (C,F,G) R Peacock 9-10-7 M A Fitzgerald
4 130- PERSISTENT GUNNER 389 (G,S) R Hodges 7-10-5 T Dascombe 91
5 4306 VISCOUNT TULLY 49 (S) C Jackson 12-10-0 Miss S Jackson 98
6 4532 MISS SOUTER 238 (F,S) H Howe 8-10-0 Mr R Thornton (3) 91

Evens Mystic Hill, 3-1 Bell One, 6-1 Persistent Gunner, 8-1 Viscount Tully, 10-1 Sheep Stealer, 12-1 Miss Souter.

5.00 ROYAL MARINES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,906: 2m 2f) (6)

1 5541 PIPER'S ROCK 21 (F) G Balding 6-11-10 A Bates
2 4021 GEISWAY 30 (G) N Walker 7-11-7 X Aizpuru 96
3 6011 CONTRACT BRIDGE 5 (F) P Murphy 4-11-4 (7ex) Sophie Mitchell 95
4 0P31 SAFECRACKER 18 (F) C Morlock 4-10-6 P Henley 96
5 -F06 LYPHARD'S FABLE 131 T George 6-10-1 T Dascombe —
6 P540 RORY'M 30 (V) L Waring 8-10-0 M Griffiths —

7-4 Piper's Rock, 3-1 Contract Bridge, 7-2 Geisway, 4-1 Safecracker, 12-1 Lyphard's Fable, 25-1 Rory'm.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss H Knight, 31 winners from 95 runners, 32.6%; M Pipe 81 from 303, 26.7%; A Dunn, 6 from 28, 21.4%; D Burchell 3 from 20, 15%; P Murphy, 3 from 20, 15.0%; Mrs J Retter, 10 from 78, 12.8%.

JOCKEYS: J Titley, 8 winners from 34 rides, 23.5%; P Henley, 4 from 25, 16.0%; M A Fitzgerald, 17 from 110, 15.5%; J Culloty, 8 from 65, 12.3%; J Frost, 16 from 137, 11.7%. Only qualifiers

PLUMPTON

THUNDERER

2.10 Circus Colours. 2.45 Persian Elite. 3.20 Malwood Castle. 3.50 Theme Arena. 4.20 Linden's Lotto. 4.50 Night In A Million.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.10 APRIL CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,935: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

1 3242 PETER MONAMY 28 (B,F,G,S) M Pipe 5-11-10 A P McCoy
2 PP56 CASTLEBAY LAD 21 (V,S) R Curtis 14-11-4 Mr M Appleby
3 2060 CIRCUS COLOURS 34F (D,F) J Jenkins 7-11-2 N Williamson
4 12RF JENZSOPH 228 (F,S) P Hobbs 6-11-1 D J Kavanagh (5)
5 SHEYL SEYMOUR Mrs J Ewer 6-10-11 B Fenton
6 55P4 EWAR BOLD 6 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 4-10-8 D Slattery (7)
7 4350 FORTUNES ROSE 58 J King 5-10-7 T J Murphy

5-4 Peter Monamy, 2-1 Jenzsoph, 6-1 Circus Colours, 12-1 Ewar Bold, 14-1 Fortunes Rose, 16-1 Castlebay Lad, 25-1 Sheyl Seymour

2.45 COOKSBRIDGE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,343: 2m 4f) (6)

1 431U PERSIAN ELITE 11 (G) C Egerton 6-12-0 J Osborne
2 P533 NORDIC SPREE 6 (V) G L Moore 5-11-0 P Holley
3 3403 BEN BOWDEN 30 (F) S Woodman 4-11-0 L Aspell (3)
4 16P6 CROWN IVORY 30 (F) P Ritchens 9-10-2 S Fox
5 P642 CLOCK WATCHERS 20 J Bridger 9-10-2 D Morris
6 0050 RED LIGHT 2F (V) J Jenkins 5-10-1 N Williamson

2-1 Persian Elite, 7-2 Nordic Spree, 4-1 Ben Bowden, Clock Watchers, 6-1 Crown Ivory, 16-1 Red Light

3.20 OFFHAM NOVICES CHASE (£3,177: 3m 1f 110yd) (3)

1 4514 DREAM LEADER 9 (CD,F,G) M Roberts 7-11-8 J Railton
2 122U FRAZER ISLAND 18 (S) R Rowe 8-11-8 D O'Sullivan
3 F213 MALWOOD CASTLE 30 (BF,F,G) R Alner 7-11-8 N Williamson

10-11 Frazer Island, 5-2 Malwood Castle, 3-1 Dream Leader

3.50 HOVE FOUR YRS OLD FILLIES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,181: 2m 1f) (5)

1 0221 THEME ARENA 5 (V,D,F) M Pipe 11-7 A P McCoy
2 FORTUITIOUS 294F J Jenkins 10-7 N Williamson
3 P0 PERSIAN DAWN 21 R Phillips 10-7 J Railton
4 SALSIAN 302F P Winkworth 10-7 T J Murphy
5 2F THREESOCKS 69 B Smart 10-7 I Lawrence

6-5 Theme Arena, 2-1 Threesocks, 9-2 Salsian, 8-1 Fortuitious, 14-1 Persian Dawn.

4.20 WIVELSFIELD GREEN HANDICAP CHASE (£2,947: 2m 5f) (8)

1 12-P MERIVEL 326 (F) R Rowe 10-12-0 D O'Sullivan
2 004F LINDEN'S LOTTO 21 (F,G,S) J White 8-11-2 N Williamson
3 1221 COOLTEEN HERO 15 (C,F,S) R Alner 7-10-12 P Holley
4 5333 PAPER STAR 130 (CD,F) M Muggeridge 10-10-10 B Powell
5 33F1 BLAZER MORINIERE 6 (F,G) P Ritchens 8-10-2 (6ex) S Fox
6 3512 STORMHILL PILGRIM 16 (CD,F,G) M Roberts 9-10-0 D Gallagher
7 54P2 BE SURPRISED 32 (G) G L Moore 11-10-0 M Batchelor (7)
8 4520 TURPIN'S GREEN 30 (D,BF,F,G) J King 14-10-0 T J Murphy

9-4 Coolteen Hero, 4-1 Blazer Moriniere, 9-2 Linden's Lotto, 5-1 Merivel, 6-1 Paper Star, 8-1 Stormhill Pilgrim, 14-1 others.

4.50 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,242: 2m 4f) (4)

1 0365 ALLTIME DANCER 18 (B,F,G,S) O Sherwood 5-12-0 J Osborne
2 0413 NIGHT IN A MILLION 20 (CD,F) S Woodman 6-10-0 L Aspell (3)
3 0435 BIGWHEEL BILL 53 (D,F,G) J Jenkins 8-10-0 N Williamson
4 5502 ADILOV 6 J Bridger 5-10-0 D Morris

6-4 Alltime Dancer, 5-2 Night In A Million, 7-2 Adilov, 4-1 Bigwheel Bill

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 13 winners from 32 runners, 40.6%; C Egerton, 12 from 31, 38.7%; M Muggeridge, 5 from 18, 27.8%; J White, 35 from 127, 27.6%; R Alner, 9 from 48, 18.8%; G L Moore, 5 from 27, 18.5%.

JOCKEYS: A P McCoy, 17 winners from 58 rides, 29.3%; J Osborne, 12 from 50, 24.0%; D O'Sullivan, 15 from 92, 16.3%; L Aspell, 3 from 23, 13.0%; P Holley, 5 from 41, 12.2%; B Powell, 7 from 59, 11.9%.

☐ William Muir will aim Averti at the King's Stand Stakes or the Cork And Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot after the six-year-old's win in the Corston Conditions Stakes at Bath yesterday.

IN BRIEF

Promoters have bet of £50,000

FRANK WARREN and Mickey Duff, the promoters, yesterday added spice to the contest between two of their boxers — Robin Reid and Henry Wharton — at the Nynex Arena, Manchester, on Saturday by agreeing a £50,000 wager on the outcome.

Duff, Wharton's backer, had originally wanted to gamble £20,000, but agreed to increase the stake when challenged by Warren at a press conference. "I always put my money where my mouth is and I think Robin Reid is a very underrated fighter," Warren, who once successfully bet £120,000 on Tim Witherspoon to beat Frank Bruno, said.

Congreaves signs

Basketball: Andrea Congreaves, the England international, will be one of only three non-Americans participating in the inaugural eight-team Women's National Basketball Association when it begins in June. A 6ft 2in centre, Congreaves will play for Charlotte Sting.

Davis excels

Lacrosse: Wales could reach the third-place play-off after beating Canada 9-8 in the World Cup in Tokyo yesterday. Ailsa Davis scored the winning goal 15 seconds from time, her fourth of the match. Sarah Butt scored a hat-trick for England in the 7-5 defeat by the United States.

Giles returns

Hockey: England have named a squad of 16, including Calum Giles, the corner specialist, for the international against Germany in Düsseldorf on May 31. England, without Giles, failed to convert 28 short corners in the recent five nations' tournament in Karachi.

SQUAD: S Mason (Reading), D Luckes (East Grinstead), G Wyatt (Reading), A Humphrey (Cannock), W Waugh (Southgate), J Wallis (Teddington), G Fordham (Hounslow), Soma Singh (Southgate), J Pidcock (Cannock), B Sharpe (Cannock), R Garcia (HDM, Holland), R Crutchley (Cannock), C Giles (Laren, Holland), J Lee (Old Loughtonians), P McGuire (Teddington), S Ashdown (Reading)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

When the defence are threatening to get a ruff, the declarer's natural instinct is to draw trumps immediately: but he should always look at the consequences. Often, the trick conceded by allowing a ruff will come back in another way. This hand was played at the Australian Gold Coast congress in February.

Dealer West *Love all*

North:
♠K 7 6
♥A Q 8 4
♦K Q J 6 3
♣4

West:
♠J
♥10 6 5 2
♦2
♣K Q J 10 9 7 2

East:
♠Q 10 9 2
♥K J 9 7
♦5 4
♣A 8 3

South:
♠A 8 5 4 3
♥3
♦A 10 9 8 7
♣6 5

W	N	E	S
3C	Double	4C	4S
All Pass			

Contract: Four Spades by South *Lead: Two of diamonds*

Five Diamonds is the best North-South contract, but difficult to reach after East-West's obstructive efforts. That is why people pre-empt.

The diamond lead was clearly a singleton, and so the declarer drew two rounds of trumps. That would have been fine if the trumps were 3-2; declarer would have made four tricks in spades, one in hearts and five in diamonds.

However, when the spades were 4-1, to make the contract, declarer had to take a heart finesse. East won, drew dummy's last trump and took two club tricks for two off.

Playing a club at trick two will always bring in the contract when the trumps are 3-2, even if someone gets a ruff — declarer will not lose more than one club, one diamond ruff and one trump trick — but that line fails here, with trumps 4-1 and the hand with the singleton trump getting the ruff.

The winning line is to play the king of spades at trick two, then play a club. If the defence get a diamond ruff, declarer loses only the three tricks described in the previous paragraph, and the gain is against the 4-1 break. Now, declarer has set up his club ruff before East can draw all of dummy's trumps.

☐ The British Open team for the European championship in June will be Gus Calderwood and Dick Shek, Gerald and Stuart Tredinnick, Jason and Justin Hackett, with Tony Priday captain and David Burn coach.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BIDDY
a. A maid
b. A signal at bridge
c. A baby's feeder

SHEMOZZLE
a. A piece of harness
b. To kidnap
c. A rumpus

GOLIARDS
a. Buffoons
b. Medieval plus-fours
c. Polish cavalry

DODDYPOLL
a. A parrot
b. A general election
c. A fool

Answers on page 54

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Prodigy's prospects

Luke McShane, 13, who recently achieved the distinction of becoming Great Britain's youngest international master, has somewhat less than a year to go if he wants to break the record of Etienne Bacrot, 14, in becoming the youngest grandmaster.

In spite of a superb series of successes, McShane still has some way to go to reach the maturity required of grandmaster performances. McShane's style strongly resembles that of the young Nigel Short — clear attacking strategy and open positions. He is very much a specialist when playing White against the Sicilian Defence.

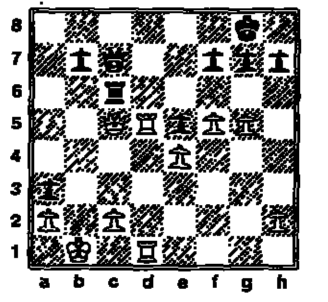
In the game today, however, facing an opponent rated 2,630 on the international scale, McShane shows that he still has much to learn when handling the strategically delicate Sicilian Defence as Black. An ill-timed counter-attack on the queen's flank led to disorganisation in the black camp, which White ruthlessly exploited.

White: Movsesian
Black: McShane
Gelsenkirchen, 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	Nc3	Nf6
4	d4	cxd4
5	Nxd4	a6
6	Be3	e5
7	Nb3	Be7
8	f3	0-0
9	Qd2	Be6
10	0-0-0	a5
11	Bb5	Nc6
12	Qf2	Qb8
13	Kb1	Rc8
14	g4	a4
15	Nc1	a3
16	b3	Nb4
17	N1e2	Ra5
18	g5	Ne8
19	Bxe8	Rxe8
20	Bb6	Ra6
21	Nb5	Qc8
22	Nec3	Qc6
23	Bc7	Qd7
24	f4	Rc8
25	f5	Bc4
26	bxc4	Rxc7
27	c5	d5
28	Nxc7	Qxc7
29	Nxd5	Nxd5
30	Rxd5	Rc6
31	Rhd1	Bxc5
32	Qxc5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

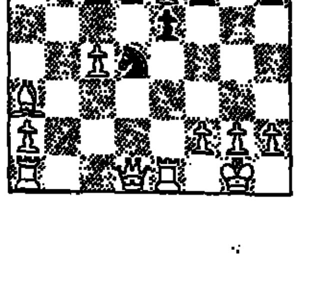
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Sher — Hitzgerova, Baden, 1997. Nimzowitsch, the great chess teacher, wrote of the passed pawn's "lust to expand". How did the white pawn on e6 fulfil its desires here?

Solution on page 54



CRICKET: LANCASHIRE'S LONG UNBEATEN RUN IN BENSON AND HEDGES CUP COMES TO AN END

Yorkshire turn tables on Roses rivals

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won the toss): Yorkshire (2pts) beat Lancashire by 49 runs

FOR 16 matches, stretching back to 1994, Lancashire had reigned unbeaten in the Benson and Hedges Cup. They may yet win it for a third successive year, come July at Lord's, but their proud sequence was broken yesterday when Yorkshire won a tense, low-scoring zonal match, on a stiflingly slow pitch, with more in hand than had seemed likely.

If the run had to end, it was entirely appropriate that Yorkshire should be the beneficiaries, for they had come so close last June, when Lancashire snatched an epic semi-final victory at Old Trafford by one wicket and off the final ball. For too long they have suffered, subserviently, in one-day Roses cricket and, whether or not this is the precursor of altered times, it was a result to make them believe in the possibility.

Lancashire, chasing only 204 in a match carried over because of the torrential rain of Monday, never managed to engage third gear and even a valiant and typically inventive 64 not out from Neil Fairbrother could not take them close. Finally, as he ran out of partners and overs simultaneously, Fairbrother failed to dominate the strike, let alone the bowling.

Just as he had done in the semi-final last season, Peter Martin strode out to win the match in a last-wicket stand. This time, though, rather than needing two from the final ball, he required 51 from five overs; predictably, it was beyond him.

True, Lancashire were without Mike Watkinson, their captain, and Wasim Akram, their overseas player, both unfit, and lost Glen Chapple when he broke a knuckle in the field. He will require surgery in hospital today; Lancashire may require the return of Wasim against Derbyshire.

Lancashire, of course, have escaped from corners as tight as yesterday's, and many times. In acquiring the unargued accolade as the best cup side in the country, they have needed resilience and character as much as natural talent. In this competition, especially, they have never known when they are beaten.

Perhaps there was a false sense of security about their reply, for the Yorkshire total had seemed inadequate, even allowing for the stingy qualities of the pitch and the shortfalls in the Lancashire batting. Indeed, the impression throughout an uninspired innings was that Yorkshire will miss Michael Bevan even more than they feared.

Time and again, last season, Bevan injected Yorkshire's batting with a steely conviction. He is a taciturn character, one who openly detests being beaten and his attitude did wonders for a dressing-room that probably needed some toughening up. This year they are going to have to stand alone and, on this evidence, they may not consistently be up to it.

The opening pair, past and present captains, proceeded contentedly to 69 before Martin, who had been beating the bat with outswing, drifted one back in to bowl Martyn Moxon off his pad.

In Martin's next over, David Byas wrongly identified a long-hop, top-edging his pull to mid-on, and when Peter Hartley, the putative pinch-hitter, suffered the early fate of so many such experiments, Yorkshire's platform had collapsed beneath them.

There were some undistinguished shots played as the innings declined, but this was as much because of frustrations with the pitch as to early-season rustiness. McGrath, having chanced his arm through the vacant slip area more than once, was caught at short third man, and Parker and Vaughan chipped simple catches as they tried to loft the ball over the infield.

The last four wickets went down for five runs and Lancashire, who had copied Leicestershire's huddle to generate body heat rather than bonding, left the windswept ground gratefully and confidently.

Six of their eight Benson and Hedges Cup wins last year came through batting second and there was what seemed at first to be a measured stealth about their approach. Only when Hartley, still effective after all these years, took out Gallian and Crawley in his first two overs did the poise begin to splinter.

Atherton, having stayed around for 20 overs for 15, mistimed a drive to cover, Lloyd suffered a rare failure and Byas, juggling his bowlers with confusing speed, allowed for no retrenchment. Once the fifth-wicket stand of 67 between Fairbrother and Ian Austin was broken by Chris Silverwood, who took the gold award, the rest was a formality.

BARRY GREENWOOD

Martin, the Lancashire bowler, beats Moxon's defence and knocks back the Yorkshire batsman's stumps yesterday

OLD TRAFFORD SCOREBOARD

YORKSHIRE	
*D Byas c Atherton b Martin	32
M D Moxon b Martin	28
M P Vaughan c Atherton b Austin	45
P J Hartley lbw b Yates	6
A McGrath c Austin b Yates	13
B Parker c Lloyd b Austin	15
C White c Crawley b Green	26
†R J Blakey not out	16
D Gough c Austin b Green	0
C E W Silverwood c and b Martin	0
R D Stemp run out	2
Extras (b 2, lb 7, w 11)	20
Total (48 overs)	203

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-69, 2-77, 3-90, 4-114, 5-143, 6-165, 7-198, 8-199, 9-201

BOWLING: Martin 9-2-31-3, Austin 9-0-27-2; Chapple 5-1-23-0; Yates 10-0-36-2; Green 10-0-45-2; Gallian 5-0-32-0.

Umpires: R Julian and R A White.

LANCASHIRE	
J E R Gallian lbw b Hartley	7
*M A Atherton c White b Silverwood	15
J P Crawley c Gough b Hartley	0
N H Fairbrother not out	64
G D Lloyd b Gough	6
I D Austin c Blakey b Silverwood	30
†W K Hegg c Blakey b Silverwood	1
G Yates b Stemp	4
R J Green b Gough	7
P J Martin b Hartley	0
G Chapple abs	0
Extras (lb 6, w 8, nb 6)	20
Total (45.4 overs)	154

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-24, 3-44, 4-57, 5-124, 6-133, 7-140, 8-153, 9-154

BOWLING: Gough 8-0-23-2; Silverwood 10-2-22-3; White 9-1-28-0; Hartley 9.4-1-31-3; Stemp 9-1-34-1; Vaughan 2-0-10-0

Gold award: C E W Silverwood

Rattling good way to begin the new season

MICHAEL HENDERSON

Line and Length

Neville Cardus thought that to be paid for watching cricket at Lord's in the afternoon, and then hearing Lotte Lehmann sing Richard Strauss at Covent Garden in the evening, was nothing less than an act of providence. If so, then he repaid his good fortune several times over, and his readers were all the richer for it.

Last Wednesday it was possible, almost, to follow in Cardus's footsteps. Less than an hour after play finished at the Oval, where Somerset had batted all day against Surrey, Sir Simon Rattle walked on to the stage of the Royal Festival Hall to conduct the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in a programme by that well-balanced middle order, J Haydn, R Strauss and Berlioz H (capt).

It was the first day proper of the cricket season, and it may turn out to be the highlight of the summer. I do not, of course, refer to Richard Harden's batting, tenacious though it was, or to Alex Tudor's bowling, which was distinctly promising. But for one modest day and one glorious night I imagined myself to be a successor, in spirit, to Cardus. Young Rattle played shots all round the field.

He is not in fact a cricket man though his father, Denis, who passed away last year, assuredly was. But a wealth of associations link cricket with music, from Cardus himself, who changed common perceptions on both sides of the wicket, so to speak, through to a man such as Bob Willis, fast bowler supreme and fully paid-up Wagnerian.

> 'It may be the highlight of summer'

Sir John Barbirolli was a lover of the game, but no more than Zubin Mehta is today. (There is even a whisper that Carlos Kleiber, possibly the greatest living conductor, is a follower).

Nigel Kennedy is a Warwickshire member: Julian Bream and Sir Neville Marriner run their own teams, Bream so seriously that when an opposing team turned up without wicketkeeping gloves he refused to lend them his own.

Keith Miller could talk on (almost) equal terms about Beethoven to Cardus and, it is said, rerouted a bomber mission home during the Second World War war so that he could fly over Bonn, where the composer was born.

The tenor, Robert Tear, who has sung in all the world's leading opera houses, regards the youthful hours he spent batting at the other end to Tony Lewis to have been as pleasurable as any he has spent. Lewis was himself a fine violinist, and remains an utterly reliable musical witness.

It is not difficult to make a case for the mutual fascination. Both disciplines are by turns dramatic and tedious, depending on who is at the crease. There are conductors who can make Mahler sound as boring as a Boycott innings, and there are batsmen who can light up the day like Haydn (who is always a test of true musical intelligence). There are *longueurs* in both games, time for contemplation and scope for revelation. In short, cricket and music offer natural conduits for the human character to express itself.

But back to Rattle. In November 1987 he was making his debut with the Berlin Philharmonic in Mahler's Symphony No 6, which represented a bumping pitch and a blinding light if ever there was one. (There is another view of Mahler. Doug Ibbotson once wrote of a wretched day at Lord's that "if Mahler had ever completed his Symphony No 10 he would have called it the Middlesex". Naughty!)

At the final rehearsal I started chatting to a man behind me who kept saying, "they really are playing for him!". It turned out to Rattle Sr and when he discovered he was talking to a cricket writer he exclaimed: "Aha, a new Cardus!"

After the concert that night he took me to one side in the green room and said: "Let me tell you about the time I played for my school against Kent, and was bowled by Tich Freeman."

So it was in the holy of all musical holies, Herbert von Karajan's room at the Berlin Philharmonie, with people reeling in shock after a superlative performance, that I heard how A. P. "Tich" Freeman, Kent's demon leg spinner, the taker of 3,776 wickets, more than any man in the history of the game save one (Wilfred Rhodes), had bowled out a schoolboy batsman nearly 60 years before.

"Les Ames, the wicketkeeper, was sitting next to me at lunch," said Denis, "and he told me 'when Tich comes on he'll bowl you a top spinner'. And he did. 'Then', he said, 'he'll bowl a googly'. And he did. 'Then he'll give you a leg spinner'. And he did. And it bowled me. Now, come and say hello to Simon. Good, wasn't it? They really can play. But the trombones aren't a patch on Birmingham."

Somewhere at home is the programme from that memorable evening, on which his son, that most gifted of men, has written "caught in the slips again" and "ta for coming, Simon."

No, no: thank you.

De Silva's unbeaten 103 makes history

By Our Sports Staff

ARAVINDA de Silva became the first player in Test history to score two unbeaten centuries in one match as Sri Lanka scented victory over Pakistan on the fourth day of the second and final Test in Colombo yesterday.

De Silva followed his 138 not out with 103 not out to help Sri Lanka to reach 386 for four declared, setting Pakistan 426 to win the match and the series. Chaminda Vaas then dispatched both opening batsmen, Rameez Raja and Salim Elahi, to leave Pakistan on 28 for two at the close.

De Silva has dominated the short series with three consecutive hundreds, having scored 168 in the second innings of the drawn first Test, also in Colombo. The platform for de Silva yesterday was built by the openers, Sanath Jayasuriya, who made 113, and Russell Arnold, who scored a maiden Test fifty.

SRI LANKA: First Innings 331 (P A de Silva 138 not out, S T Jayasuriya 72; Saqlain Mushtaq 4 for 115)

Second Innings	
S T Jayasuriya c sub b Saqlain	113
R P Arnold b Mushtaq	50
M S Atapattu run out	4
P A de Silva not out	103
*A Ranatunga st Salim Elahi b Mushtaq	66
H P Tillekeratne not out	24
Extras (b 12, lb 6, w 1, nb 7)	26
Total (4 wkts dec)	386

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-157, 2-171, 3-203, 4-308

BOWLING: Salim Malik 9-2-33-0; Ijaz Ahmed 5-0-18-0; Saqlain Mushtaq 42.5-4-171-1; Mushtaq Ahmed 33-4-113-2; Asif Mujtaba 6-0-33-0

PAKISTAN: First Innings 292 (Moin Khan 98; Vaas 4 for 60; S C de Silva 5 for 85)

Second Innings	
*Ramiz Raja c Kaluwitharana b Vaas	0
Salim Elahi c Arnold b Vaas	14
Ijaz Ahmed not out	9
Salim Malik not out	5
Extras	0
Total (2 wkts)	28

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-19

BOWLING: Vaas 5-2-11-2; S C de Silva 5-2-16-0; K J Silva 1-0-1-0; Kalpage 1-1-0-0

Umpires: P Manuel (Sri Lanka) and I T Robinson (Zimbabwe).

Grubby Derbyshire leave Jones fuming

By Michael Austin

LAKENHAM (Derbyshire won the toss): Derbyshire (2pts) beat Minor Counties by six wickets

GIVEN the choice, Dean Jones, the Derbyshire captain and Australian master-batsman, would probably have nominated anyone for the Gold Award except match-winning century-maker Chris Adams, the team-mate who ran him out. In equal measure, however, the champagne and blushes belonged to Adams.

Jones, already doubly frustrated at being marooned on 99 when rain washed away a potential championship win over Kent last Saturday, found himself ousted for 35 after responding faithfully but fatally to Adams's call and being sent back to the bowler's end.

However, this "yes-no" interlude, after Adams had pushed the ball gently to Jonathan Fielding at mid-on, scarcely disturbed Derbyshire's march to a much-easier victory than the 11 balls to spare suggest. Even so, it did nothing for team morale. When climbing the steps of the thatched pavilion, Jones yelled: "He said go!" Seconds later, Jones hurled down his bat in the dressing-room.

He later cleaned his boots vigorously on the verandah, thankfully with a blunt instrument, scraping away the dirt and symbolically wiping his memory of a grubby team performance. Derbyshire's diary entry should read: Bowled badly, DeFreitas and Malcolm apart; fielded moderately and batted passably well against, bless them, mostly second-class bowlers.

Derbyshire, windswept and already looking weary, trooped off for today's second round of games, continuing a not-so-magical mystery tour of Canterbury, Norwich and Old Trafford in the season's first competitive week.

Already, both opening batsmen have been stitched. Adams has three in the right eyebrow, Kim Barnett six in his knee after mishaps in Kent. Dominic Cork has suffered from a groin strain with Andrew Hayhurst laid low by a knee cartilage problem.

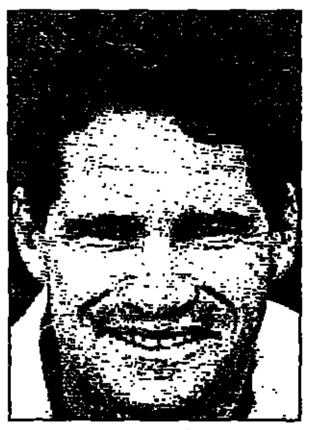
In other respects, Adams was in perfect batting health, his 138 from 123 balls including six sixes and 14 fours before he was caught at the wicket off Stewart Laudat. Adams and Jones added 102 in 19 overs, a third-wicket partnership that Derbyshire appreciated because they looked thin down below.

Adams was only five runs short of beating Derbyshire's individual best in the competition, set, yes, by Jones against Minor Counties last summer. As for the minors, they still seek a third win against the majors this decade with the boundless enthusiasm that exists beyond the top shires.

They overturned Sussex in 1992, Leicestershire two years ago. This modern set, with five newcomers including Wayne Larkins, formerly of Northamptonshire and Durham, and Neal Radford, have a distinct spring in their stride.

The two former Test players — Larkins, of Bedfordshire, and Radford, of Herefordshire — have taken a compulsory year to qualify. No "outsider" in his first season represents Minor Counties.

The side batted reliably and fielded better than Derbyshire. A virtuoso bowling display from Radford on Friday, against Worcestershire, his former county, is needed to galvanise their hopes.



Jones: growing frustration

LAKENHAM SCOREBOARD

MINOR COUNTIES	
S J Dean c Krikken b Malcolm	7
W Larkins c Jones b Malcolm	0
J P J Sylvester b DeFreitas	7
*I Cockbain b Dean	30
M A Fell b Roberts	67
R N Dalton b Harris	76
S V Laudat not out	43
J M Fielding c Clarke b Roberts	1
N V Radford not out	10
Extras (lb 4, w 11)	15
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	256

M A Sharp and †P J Nicholson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-9, 3-31, 4-97, 5-173, 6-229, 7-232

BOWLING: DeFreitas 10-2-25-1; Malcolm 10-2-42-2; Harris 10-0-65-1; Dean 8-0-57-1; Roberts 10-1-50-2; Clarke 2-0-13-0.

DERBYSHIRE	
K J Barnett c Nicholson b Fell	28
C J Adams c Nicholson b Laudat	138
D E Malcolm c Larkins b Fielding	13
*D M Jones run out	35
G A Khan not out	13
V P Clarke not out	17
Extras (lb 6, w 10)	16
Total (4 wkts, 48.1 overs)	260

P A J DeFreitas, †K M Krikken, G M Roberts, A J Harris and K J Dean did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-39, 2-112, 3-214, 4-237.

BOWLING: Radford 10-0-31-0; Sharp 10-1-48-0; Dalton 6.1-0-53-0; Fielding 10-0-57-1; Fell 4-0-19-1; Laudat 8-0-46-1

Gold award: C J Adams

Umpires: B J Meyer and B Leadbeater.

More moves on Sussex merry-go-round

NIGEL BETT, the secretary of Sussex, who is on sick leave, has been dismissed by the club's new committee. Financial arrangements are at present being discussed. His replacement, who will be announced today, is Hugh Griffiths, 50, a former Rothmans executive.

Bett, who did not attend the annual meeting of the club at which the committee resigned, embarrassed some of the membership by being photographed for a naturist magazine. This picture has been reprinted in the current edition of *The Cricketer* and Bett has not returned to work since, but Robin Marlar, the club chairman, insists that this was not a relevant issue.

What concerned Marlar was that, two years ago, a coach, Desmond Haynes, was appointed ahead of a director of cricket. According to Marlar, John Barclay, a former captain of Sussex who now oversees the indoor school at Arundel, would have been the obvious candidate. For that, Bett, a pleasant man who has been secretary of Sussex for nine years, took the blame.

The next announcement at Hove will be the appointment on May 7 of six new committee members to join the three in existence. These will be non-executives who will play no part in the day-to-day running of the club unless they are asked by Marlar or Tony Pigott, the chief executive, to take on a project, such as looking into the redevelopment of the ground.

It was likely that Bett's position at the club would be in jeopardy once the committee had resigned. Two years ago the departure of Norman Gifford, the coach, led to a review of the structure of personnel. Sussex decided to appoint a new first-team coach and create a position of director of cricket and coaching. The first role was swiftly filled through the recruitment of Haynes, but not the second.

EXTRA

COVER

Scorers put out

The county cricket scorers, who, four years ago, had to grapple with computerisation, are irked that they are having now to deal with the Duckworth Lewis system, the new method of working out run-rates required for limited-overs matches that are rain-affected. Two of their number work without renumeration and several are of an age when they do not want to cope with modern technology.

"The original idea was that the umpires would sort out the run-rates, but they decided the system would take too long to work out manually," Ted Lester, the chairman of the Association of Scorers, said. "So we have been put on." The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has asked the counties to improve the status and, perhaps, the renumeration of the scorers.

Vic Isaacs, of Hampshire, is the senior scorer on the county circuit. He is in his 24th year and has taken to the changes readily. "The new system is fairer, but complex to work manually, which is why the umpires are worried about it," he said.

"Whether some scorers in an honorary capacity can continue, with the way things are going, I don't know. Clem Driver [Essex] and Stan Tacey [Derbyshire] had never looked at a computer before we were asked to use them.

"The younger element are coping better, but the ECB is still asking a lot. The counties will not find it easy to gain our replacements in future because the poor old scorer is still a second-class citizen, bracketed together with scoreboard operators, and those who work in the club shop."

Lions loathed

Sir Alec Bedser, Surrey's most famous living cricketer, is not a supporter of one-day cricket. He is still less an admirer of the gimmickry that has been introduced at his beloved Oval this season. "We are just copying what everyone else in the game is doing, including Australia," he said. "They have an academy, so we have to have an academy. They have music at matches, so we have it, too.

"The Surrey Lions is all wrong. What is the problem with Surrey CCC? It's a great club. I don't think Lions roaring, coloured clothing or gimmicks bring spectators into the ground. I have passed on my views to the committee. The only reason I am critical is because I want to see standards maintained and I find it hard to believe all this is necessary."

Roving eye

The BBC is to employ a roving reporter during Test matches for the first time this year. Simon Hughes, the cricketer turned journalist, is to conduct interviews during play. "If, for instance, Mark Waugh scores a century, we will get him to show the camera his thigh pad," Hughes said. "On it he has written the details of all the centuries he has scored in the form of stick men."

Meanwhile, Peter Baxter, the producer of the BBC's *Test Match Special*, is upset that the fortieth anniversary of the programme is being marred by claims that John Arlott and Brian Johnston, its two most famous commentators, did not hit it off. "They would not have socialised a lot together, but I never saw a cross word between them," he said. "People who are suggesting otherwise are very sad."

FATHER TIMES

Middlesex are kept waiting by Kallis

By Alan Lee

SEVEN counties began their Benson and Hedges Cup programme this week without an overseas player and anything up to eight teams could be without one when ten further matches are staged today. As only Surrey have been brave enough to dispense with foreign aid, this is a fair indication of the shambles that the system has become.

Middlesex, needing to beat Essex at Lord's to avoid the earliest of exits after their defeat in Dublin, would dearly like to reinforce their ranks with Jacques Kallis. The option is denied them, however, as Kallis has yet to arrive from South Africa, where he has been completing an extended season with Western Province.

Joe Hardstaff, the Middlesex secretary, returned from the indignities against Ireland to report: "Kallis will fly in early on Thursday morning and, if he has come through the journey well, he'll play at Cardiff on Friday." As Richard Johnson has been in poor form pre-season, Middlesex have little room for manoeuvre today against an Essex team in impressive form.

Yorkshire left out Darren Lehmann, their new Australian, at Old Trafford because he was short of match practice. They may give him his debut against Worcestershire at Headingley today.

Most of the remaining absentees are Pakistanis returning late, or unfit, from a hectic winter of international engagements. Wasim Akram is already back with Lancashire, though, and he could be drafted into their side against Derbyshire.

Neil Johnson, a Natal all-rounder scarcely known in England, is expected to play for Leicestershire at Grace Road. Nottinghamshire, the visitors, are among four counties still awaiting their registered Pakistani.

Durham have already taken up where they left off last season, emphatically losing their first two one-day games. Victory over Northamptonshire, in their first home game of the season, would do much for local credibility.

Surrey have shed some of that commodity in the opening week, playing abysmally in the championship and scrambling one win from two last-ball thrillers in the limited-overs games. This is not the start most predicted for them and they will be in chastened mood for the away game with Gloucestershire, who have begun surprisingly well.

"Where can I sell my beautiful home?"
See p.46

[illegible]

Censors barking up wrong tree in pursuit of Russell

SIMON BARNES

Midweek View

I have always had a fellow-feeling for Jack Russell. We are both wicketkeepers. I was quite extraordinarily bad; he is still a master. We have both revelled in batting as a form of obduracy. me hilariously against such fearsome attacks as the Nicky Bird XI, he gloriously against the might of West Indies.

We both found India a life-changing experience, me to abandon these shores for Asia and take up new ethical positions, he to found a second career as a painter. And we have both fallen foul of the censors at Lord's.

Russell had a book, called, ho-ho, *Jack Russell Unleashed*. Since it is not a Panglossian apologia, since it does not view cricket as a pastoral idyll of social and economic perfection, the authorities of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) have taken agin it.

A newspaper serialisation of this book has been arranged and the *Daily Mail* is running it. The *Mail* has not selected the mildest and merriest pages from Russell's *oeuvre*: that is newspapers for you.

Lord's sees this as defiance and is wondering whether to come down with all kinds of wrath and punishment. Russell's initial position is that blame lies not in his defiance but in the sloppiness of Lord's. He submitted his book on time, but the Lord's censors failed to return the script with itemised complaints to meet the deadline. My profession encourages an attitude of contempt for people who miss deadlines.

> 'He is entitled to say the law is an ass'

My brush with the Lord's censors was over my book, a biography, third person and many different sources, called *Phil Edmonds: A Singular Man*, published back in 1986. It will not please Edmonds to know that, when the subject of the book comes up, the normal reaction is "Edmonds? Wasn't he the one with the wife?"

Indeed, Frances Edmonds, whose barnstorming *Another Bloody Tour* rather eclipsed the efforts of her husband and myself, was also a loud and dazzlingly witty voice in *A Singular Man*. The manuscript was duly submitted to Lord's for vetting and it came back with a host of objections and suggested changes.

Most of these were of mind-boggling pettiness and stupefying small-mindedness. Schoolmasterly voices coming distantly from a forgotten world, they brought out in us the defiance and deviousness of the schoolboy.

I remember only one specific objection. Edmonds had spoken slightingly of David Gower's self-conscious, table-thumping pre-match rants. Team meetings were held up for amiable ridicule. I wrote: "'I call them rah-rah meetings,' said Edmonds." That, Lord's told us, had to go. Dutifully, I changed it. Cut the word "Edmonds". Substituted the word "Frances". The childish glee Phil and I took in this can be imagined.

If you wish to play professional cricket, you must sign a contract accepting the notion of censorship. Why? Edmonds and Russell are both grown-ups who live in a democracy. They are entitled to say that the prime minister is a fink and the law is an ass. But they cannot say "rah-rah meeting". This is plainly absurd.

It is hard to see what the ECB is seeking to achieve. For a start, its notion of censorship is deeply unEnglish. A Whig gentleman-politician would find Russell's views beneath his notice: a modern democrat would defend, even in disagreement, a cricketer's right to express his views on cricket.

So far, all Lord's has managed to do is to create a tidal wave of publicity for Russell's book. If it seeks to go further, Russell has vowed to defend himself, on the aforementioned grounds of sloppiness about deadlines. If that sticks, Lord's will look like a fool.

If it doesn't, and it succeeds in banning Russell, it will look still worse. Russell is, deservedly, a player greatly loved, for his craftmanship as a wicketkeeper, his stubbornness and improvisation as a batsman, for his unassuming air, for his various martyrdoms, for his nous in bringing out in himself a second talent. To punish Russell would bring forth a nationwide howl of dismay.

> 'If it sticks, Lord's will look a fool'

Ray Illingworth, former chairman of selectors, was fined £2,000 for bringing the game into disrepute over his own book in which he he defended his outrageous treatment of Devon Malcolm. I abhor his remarks: I defend his right to make them. And if bringing the game into disrepute is a crime, Lord's itself stands guilty of it.

Sport thrives on its free exchange of views, in bars, in stadiums, in newspaper columns. Disagreements freely aired are part of sport's lifeblood. Controversy in sport is good, not bad. Lord's, with its absurd policy of censorship, stands as an enemy of sport and an enemy of freedom. It seeks to defend only its own piffling brief authority, its own pettifogging little tyrannies.

It is more than offensive, it is plain silly. It is really the stuff of lunacy. If this case goes any further, it will prove that it is not Jack Russell but the men of Lord's who are barking.

CRICKET: INEXPERIENCE COSTS DURHAM OPENING BENSON AND HEDGES CUP WIN AT TRENT BRIDGE

Boon plans route from bust to boom

Simon Wilde on the captain trying to break a losing habit in the North East

Boon, right, attempts to rally his troops as they head for defeat against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge yesterday. Photograph: Neal Simpson

DAVID BOON is a great believer in the sporting "cycle": the theory that says winning eventually turns to losing and losing to winning. He has good reason to believe in it, having cut his teeth in struggling Tasmania and Australia sides that now prosper and having watched from close quarters England's fortunes plummet in the opposite direction.

There could scarcely be a wiser choice than Boon, then, to lift Durham out of their trough of despair. If they are indeed a team at the bottom of a cycle, the wheel of fortune to which they are lashed must be a mighty big one. At Trent Bridge yesterday Nottinghamshire beat them by five wickets — their 33rd defeat in 42 county matches, against which can be set just one win, which came in a 40-overs match at Hartlepool last July, when the thoughts of their opponents, Essex, were focused on an impending cup-tie 350 miles away.

The match yesterday resumed finely poised and Boon was confident of a Durham win, but as Nottinghamshire's run-chase gathered momentum his players' inexperience told. Fielding errors crept in, bowling became loose, runs leaked away. Nottinghamshire, who should have been stretched to score 34 runs off four overs, sprinted home with three balls in hand. To those used to watching Durham, it was a depressingly familiar tale.

Boon has been brought to the North East in what is tantamount to a last throw of the dice by a club whose brief life as a first-class outfit has been embarrassingly devoid of success. It is a failure that is mirrored in rapidly declining membership figures.

Boon has been given a two-year contract and sweeping powers. Neither Geoff Cook, the cricket executive, nor Norman Gifford, the first XI coach, wield the authority they did last year.

He is as tough a cricketer as they come, but it may be difficult for Boon to maintain a positive impression in such a downtrodden environment. "My biggest task is to encourage the players to be positive in everything they do," he said. "They must realise that what's gone is gone. Yesterday does not matter. The only thing that is important is what happens now."

It is one thing saying this, another getting the message home. Last week Lancashire's last-wicket pair were permitted to score 146 together. "It was frustrating and we talked about it afterwards. What you have to remember is that this club is only five years old. We have a lot of players young in years and experience. The scars of the past are still there."

Boon has been described by Dean Jones as an "untypical Australian", for the presence he commands is a firm but calm one. When he arrives at the crease he will pointedly hold up play to survey the field before taking his first ball. In the field there is little hand-clapping or verbal exhortation from him. He remains detached, as he coolly assesses Durham's resources.

"It is probably true that I'm quieter than some — though with Jones in the side you did not need to say anything — but if you are going to say something it needs to be fashioned with the right words. I played most of my career under Allan Border and he picked his words carefully. We were great mates and, I suppose, similar in character." If Boon says little, it is generally accepted that when he speaks people listen.

Inside his first fortnight at Durham he caused a minor controversy by imposing what has been described as a curfew on the players, by insisting that they are in bed by midnight. Boon, who is a stickler for time-keeping, likes to talk about "cricket time" and "normal time". "Cricket time" begins at midnight. "It is not a curfew," he said, "but if it is broken we'll see what happens."

News of the "curfew" has caused wry smiles among those who remember that Boon, who has come to county cricket late at the age of 36, once put away 42 cans of beer on a flight from Sydney to London. "I like a beer and so do most people, but if we're quoting Dean Jones you'll find he says in his book that I was rarely out of bed after ten o'clock. It is very important to know when to celebrate."

That is not a problem that has so far troubled Durham. "We must think about winning matches rather than just saving them," he said. "But one of the hardest lessons is learning how to win. We will be a much better side for one win under our belt." How it will be achieved — and how Boon's faith in the sporting cycle will survive the next two years — remain to be seen.

TRENT BRIDGE SCOREBOARD

DURHAM	
J J B Lewis lbw b Archer	38
P D Collingwood b Bates	49
M A Roseberry st Noon b Bates	22
*D C Boon not out	64
N J Speak c Noon b Pick	31
†M P Speight b Evans	7
M M Betts not out	5
Extras (lb 8, w 6)	14
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs)	230

J Boiling, N Killeen, S J E Brown and A Walker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-82, 2-96, 3-122, 4-207, 5-219

BOWLING: Evans 10-1-40-1; Pick 8-1-43-1, Tolley 9-0-40-0; Dowman 5-0-25-0, Bates 10-0-40-2. Archer 8-1-34-1.

Umpires. J C Balderstone and H D Bird

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	
M P Dowman c Speight b Killeen	16
R T Robinson c Speight b Betts	10
G F Archer not out	111
*P Johnson b Boiling	21
P R Pollard c Boiling b Collingwood	38
N A Gie run out	8
C M Tolley not out	23
Extras (lb 5, w 2)	7
Total (5 wkts, 49.3 overs)	234

†W M Noon, K P Evans, R T Bates and R A Pick did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-39, 3-78, 4-161, 5-185

BOWLING: Brown 8 3-0-38-0, Betts 9-3-44-1; Killeen 10-0-43-1; Boiling 9-0-40-1; Walker 10-0-52-0, Collingwood 3-0-12-1

Gold award: G F Archer

EQUESTRIANISM

Whitakers lead strong World Cup challenge

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN GOTHENBURG

THEY may have disappointed in Atlanta, but John and Michael Whitaker, Geoff Billington and Nick Skelton, the four members of Great Britain's Olympic showjumping team, have done little wrong since. After a superb winter, all four have qualified for the Volvo World Cup final that starts here tomorrow. On recent form, any one of them could win.

John Whitaker, who won the World Cup on Milton in 1990 and 1991, has had his best winter season, winning the World Cup qualifiers in Berlin, Bologna and Paris. He has the advantage this week of riding two in-form horses — Grannusch, 18, his Bologna winner, whom he intends to use in the opening speed class tomorrow, and Welham, 17, whom he will keep for the last two legs of the competition.

Michael Whitaker has headed the Western European League this season, despite being without his top horse, Two Step. Success has come on the nine-year-old, Ashley, a former foxhunter champion, who has stepped neatly into Two Step's shoes.

Significantly, on his last outing in the Dutch World Cup qualifier three weeks ago, he relegated Hugo Simon, of Austria, and ET, the holders of the World Cup and favourites to win again, to second place.

None of the 45 riders in the final has a more able horse than Billington, with It's Otto. The 11-year-old, sixth in Atlanta, was runner-up in Berlin and third in both Bologna and Paris. If Billington, who has only qualified for the final once before, can produce a good opening round in the influential speed leg tomorrow, he will have a good chance.

Skelton, the winner in 1995 with Dollar Girl, has had a harder time qualifying than the other three but his horses look to have hit form at the right time. He has brought Zalza, on whom he was runner-up in Bordeaux in February, and Showtime. He will decide after the warm-up class today which he rides.

GOLF

Faldo eases Ryder Cup choice with PGA move

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK FALDO'S surprise decision to return to Great Britain next month to compete in the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth is good news for European golf and the Europe Ryder Cup team, which is captained by Severiano Ballesteros. It gives Faldo another opportunity to try to win enough money to qualify for Ballesteros's team as of right and not to have to depend on being chosen as one of the captain's two selections. It also adds lustre to the showpiece event of the European Tour.

Money may have had something to do with Faldo reversing his decision not to play in Britain before mid-summer. The first prize is a hefty £183,330. It also helps that the West Course is one of Faldo's favourites and that the PGA was the first professional tournament that he won.

Faldo had a two-week sojourn in Britain at about the same time last year, when he finished twelfth in the Benson & Hedges International and runner-up in the PGA a week later. He said then that the high winds at The Oxfordshire the week before the PGA affected his preparation for the US Open and were a contributing factor in his original decision to compete solely in the United States until mid-summer.

India, who beat Scotland in the group matches of the 1996 Dunhill Cup at St Andrew's, have not been invited back to Scotland for this year's event. India's 2-1 defeat of the host country was one of the biggest upsets in the history of the competition.

Wales, Canada, and Italy have also been excluded. Their places are taken by Argentina, France, South Korea, and Taiwan.

☐ John Daly, of the United States, who signed a $10 million endorsement deal with Wilson after winning the US PGA Championship in 1991, has been dropped by the equipment company, on his 31st birthday and a month after he indulged in a drunken spree at the Players' Championship.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee 14 Texas 8, New York Yankees 6 Seattle 5.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 12 San Diego 9; Pittsburgh 9 Philadelphia 4; New York Mets 15 Cincinnati 2; Atlanta 14 Los Angeles 0; Chicago Cubs 5 Montreal 2; Colorado 7 Houston 6, St Louis 5 San Francisco 2.

BASKETABALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-offs: Eastern Conference: New York 104 Charlotte 95 (New York win best-of-five series 3-0). Western Conference: Utah 104 Los Angeles Clippers 92 (Utah win 3-0).

BOXING

HULL: British featherweight championship (12 rnds): Paul Ingle (Scarborough, holder) bt Michael Alldis (Crawley) ret 11th rnd. British welterweight championship eliminator (10 rnds). Spencer McCracken (Birmingham) bt Dennis Berry (Derby) rsc 10th rnd. Feather (4 rds): Rocky Turnbull (Bridlington) drew with Eddie Sica (Highbury) Light (4 rnds). Tontcho Tontchev (Bul) bt Wayne Jones (Saltash) rsc 1st rnd. Light-welter (8 rnds): Andy Holligan (Liverpool) bt Rimvidas Billius (Lith) pts. Super-middle (8 rnds): Chris Johnson (Can) bt Milan Konecny (Cz) pts. Heavy (4 rnds): Craig Bowen-Price (Manchester) bt Waldemar Fremas (Pol) pts. Heavy (4rds): Gary Williams (Nottingham) bt Garrod Corrigan (Bridlington) rsc 4th rnd. Heavy (8 rnds): Kevin McBride (Clones) bt Stoyan Stoyanov (Bul) rsc 1st rnd.
GLASGOW: Professional bill: Super-bantamweight (6 rnds): Shaun Anderson (Maybole) bt Graham McGrath (Warley) pts. Super-feather (8 rnds). Lee Armstrong (Huddersfield) bt Hugh Collins (Stirling) rsc 5th rnd. Super-feather (8 rnds): Dave McHale (Glasgow) bt J Kelly (Hartlepool) rsc 4th rnd Light-welter (8 rnds): Mark Breslin (Barrhead) bt David Kirk (Sutton-in-Ashfield) pts

CRICKET

SCHOOLS MATCHES: *Cheltenham College 179-7 St Andrews (SA) 166: RGS Colchester 191-7 *Ipswich 194-8, Dulwich 185-2 dec Whitgift 95; Eastbourne 191-3 (H Southwell 102 not out) *St John's, Leatherhead 65-5; Gentlemen of Staffordshire 170-6 dec *Wrekin College 176-8: William Hulme 129 *King's, Macclesfield 130-2; XL Club 171-7dec *St Edmund's Ware 172-9

* denotes home team

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Greece 2 Croatia 0 (in Edessa).

Monday's late results

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Second division: Chesterfield 0 Stockport County 1.
SPALDING CUP: Final, second leg: Kidderminster 0 Macclesfield 0 (aet: 1-1 on agg; Kidderminster win on away goals).
UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Ashton United 2 Workington 0; Stocksbridge PS 1 Eastwood Town 0
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dagenham and Redbridge 2 Grays 1
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: League Cup final, first leg: Norwich City 0 Tottenham Hotspur 0
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Tiverton 1 Brislington 0
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Blackburn Rovers 1 Nottingham Forest 3. First division: Huddersfield Town 0 Sunderland 3. Wolverhampton Wanderers 2 Port Vale 1 Second division: Bradford City 1 Grimsby Town 1 Third division: Darlington 0 Wigan Athletic 1, Doncaster Rovers 1 Walsall 1.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 1 Swansea City 1; Millwall 1 Crystal Palace 3; Queens Park Rangers 0 Luton Town 3

ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A (Helsinki): Russia 5 Germany 1; Slovakia 5 France 3 Pool B (Turku): Italy 5 Latvia 4; United States 3 Norway 1.

LACROSSE

TOKYO: Women's World Cup: Wales 9 Canada 8; United States 7 England 5; Australia 9 Scotland 3.

RUGBY LEAGUE

AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Brisbane Broncos 34 Canterbury Bulldogs 16; Canberra Raiders 30 Perth Western Reds 10.

SPEEDWAY

SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Wolverhampton 44 (P Karlsson 13, M Karlsson 11) Bradford 46 (M Loram 11, J Screen 10) (Bradford qualify for northern section semi-finals).
PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Exeter 64 (M Coles 14, P Jeffery 14, L Lanham 14, G Gordon 13) Skegness 25 (W Carter 8).

TABLE TENNIS

MANCHESTER: World championships: Men: Quarter-finals: South Korea bt Japan 3-2; China bt Sweden 3-1; Germany bt Greece 3-1; France bt Belgium 3-2. Semi-final: China bt South Korea 3-1. Women: Semi-finals: China bt Germany 3-0; North Korea bt South Korea 3-0. Final: China bt North Korea 3-0. Third place play-off: Germany bt South Korea 3-1.

TENNIS

MUNICH: Men's tournament: First round: S Dosedel (Cz) bt J Knippschild (Ger) 6-4, 6-1; A Gaudenzi (It) bt A Volkov (Russ) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; H Gumy (Arg) bt J Burillo (Sp) 3-6, 6-1, 6-2; T Enqvist (Swe) bt D Hrbaty (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt A Radulescu (Ger) 7-6, 7-6; M Charpentier (Arg) bt S Draper (Aus) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3; K Alami (Mor) bt L Arnold (Arg) 7-5, 6-4; F Fetterlein (Den) bt R Carretero (Sp) 7-6, 6-4; A Berasategui (Sp) bt G Canas (Arg) 6-7, 6-1, 6-4
PRAGUE: Men's tournament: First round: R Fromberg (Aus) bt J Sánchez (Sp) 6-2, 6-2; J Kroslak (Slovakia) bt M Tabara (Cz) 6-1, 6-2; S Simian (Fr) bt F Roig (Sp) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; G Bianco (Sp) bt L Paes (India) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.
BOL, Croatia: Women's tournament: First round: C Brandi (US) bt N van Lottum (Fr) 6-4, 6-1; S Pitkowski (Fr) bt M-J Gaidano (Sp) 7-5, 6-4; G Pizzichini (It) bt V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) 6-2, 2-6, 7-6; K Studenikova (Slovakia) bt L Pena (Sp) 6-4, 6-3; J Kruger (SA) bt M Oremans (Holl) 6-3, 3-6, 7-6; A Alcazar (Sp) bt M Muric (Cro) 6-4, 6-2; C Morariu (US) bt M Palaversic (Cro) 6-4, 6-4; S Talaja (Cro) bt S Dopfer (Austria) 6-3, 7-5; S Kleinova (Cz) bt D van Roost (Bel) 6-2, 7-6; A Coetzer (SA) bt M Schnell (Austria) 6-1, 6-2.
HAMBURG: Women's tournament: First round: P Suarez (Arg) bt A Groesman (US) 6-4, 6-3; B Rittner (Ger) bt S Kloesel (Ger) 6-1, 5-7, 6-3; F Labat (Arg) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 6-3, 6-2; M Pierce (Fr) bt P Schnyder (Swtz) 6-1, 6-1
HATFIELD: LTA women's satellite tournament (GB unless stated): First round: C Taylor bt N Egorova (Russ) 6-7, 6-4, 6-1; L Latimer bt G Niland (Ire) 6-2, 7-5; L Jelis bt T King (NZ) 6-1, 6-0; K Cross bt V Davies 6-2, 6-2; K Elliott bt O Muscolino (Arg) 6-0, 6-1; L Ahl bt S Greig 6-2, 6-1, F Sikloss (Ger) bt A Jones 6-3, 6-1; J Osman bt W Sewondari (Indo) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6; J Steck (SA) bt J Choudoury 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

World Cup
European qualifying group two
England v Georgia
(at Wembley, 8.0)

Group four
Sweden v Scotland
(at Ullevi Stadium, Gothenburg, 6.30)

Group eight
Romania v Ireland
(at Steaua Stadium, Bucharest, 6.0)

Group nine
Armenia v Northern Ireland
(at Haradan stadium, Yerevan, 2.0)

Nationwide League
Second division
Bristol City v Chesterfield (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Halifax v Macclesfield (7.45)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Knowsley
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Hendon v Dagenham and Redbridge (7.45). Third division: Harlow v Wealdstone
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: Corby v Raunds T; Solihull Boro v Moor Green Southern division: Fareham v Weymouth; St Leonards v Forest Green
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien/McKenzie Butchers Premier Cup: Final: Harpenden v London Colney
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bournemouth v Brighton (2.0), Norwich v Bristol Rovers, Portsmouth v Arsenal (7.0). Southampton v Ipswich (at Staplewood, Marchwood). Swansea v Swindon (2.0).
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Stoke v Nottingham Forest (7.0), Tranmere v Leeds (7.0). First division: Huddersfield v Notts County (7.0); Middlesbrough v Leicester (7.0); Preston v Aston Villa (7.0); Sunderland v Blackpool (7.0). Second division: Burnley v Shrewsbury (7.15), Hull v Mansfield (7.0), York v Carlisle (7.0) Third division: Bury v Wigan (7.0); Darlington v Scunthorpe (7.0); Lincoln v Rochdale (7.0): Scarborough v Doncaster (7.0)
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Cwmbran, Briton Ferry v Welshpool, Caernarfon v Holywell (7.45); Carmarthen Town v Ebbw Vale: Llansantffraid v Bangor City: Porthmadog v Conwy, Ton Pentre v Newtown
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Kenilworth v Bolehall Swifts, Kings Heath v Meir Ka.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett v Shildon, Whitby v Stockton.
COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Feltham v Ashford
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Penrith v Blackpool Rovers
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Bowers v Burnham Ramblers
JEWSON LEAGUE: League Cup: Final: Harwich and Parkeston v Haverhill
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Northampton Sp v S and L Corby, St Neots v Stamford.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Saltdean v Mile Oak.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Under-15 international: Switzerland v England (at Ebikon 5.0).

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Bath v Gloucester (7.15)
Harlequins v Northampton
Saracens v London Irish

Second division
Waterloo v Newcastle (6.45)

Welsh League
First division
Bridgend v Cardiff (7.0)
Newbridge v Llanelli (7.0)

Second division
Ystradgynlais v Cardiff Inst (7.0)
Pontypool v Abercynon (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 7.30

Second division
Bramley v Batley

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: First division: Askam v Barrow Island.

CRICKET

Benson and Hedges Cup
11.0, 50 overs
FENNER's: British Universities v Sussex
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Northamptonshire
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Surrey
CANTERBURY: Kent v Hampshire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Derbyshire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Essex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Glamorgan
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Minor Counties
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Worcestershire

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of three): Chelmsford: Essex v Glamorgan; Eltham: Kent v Yorkshire; Hinckley Town CC: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire; Cheam: Surrey v Middlesex.

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: Embassy world championships (at Sheffield).
SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Poole v Swindon (7.30) Speedway Star Cup: King's Lynn v Ipswich (7.30). Premier League Cup: Hull v Edinburgh (7.30): Long Eaton v Skegness (7.45).
TABLE TENNIS: World championships (at Manchester)

THE TIMES Mees Pierson GOLF

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COMPANY GOLF DAYS
RESULTS

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
18 APR	UNITED DISTILLERS F ROBSON 40 C O'CONNOR 39 E RICHARDSON 38 D PENNY 38	GLENEAGLES HOTEL	155
18 APR	THE PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION D COLE 36 S BURGER 36 I TOOP 36 J RAVEN 36	FOREST OF ARDEN	144
19 APR	SAVEHEAT INSULATIONS LTD P JENKINSON 38 D WATSON 36 D MCCRACKEN 36 G EMMERSON 36	KINROSS	146
22 APR	ACC LONG DISTANCE UK LTD P HARGREAVES 39 M BARTLETT 39 L PYM 39 D FARRELL 38	CUMBERWELL PARK	154
22 APR	BARCLAYS LIFE ASSCE CO LTD J HOTCHKISS 34 S LEES 34 R MONAGHAN 34 B ROWE 36	WITHINGTON	138

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RUGBY UNION: COACH CONDUCTS MASTERCLASS FOR TOURING PARTY'S PIVOTAL MEN

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Alred casts a critical eye over the punting prowess of, from left, Healey, Dawson, Grayson and Jenkins at Franklin's Gardens yesterday

Jenkins kicks back to health

David Hands, rugby correspondent, sees a player on whom the British Lions will surely depend get back to business yesterday

Any resemblance between Northampton's homely ground at Franklin's Gardens and the great rugby stadiums of South Africa is entirely coincidental, but they have in common a stretch of green and goal posts, which, yesterday, was sufficient for Neil Jenkins, the Pontypridd stand-off half. He resumed goal-kicking after an enforced six-week break and now the departure of the British Isles team to South Africa cannot come soon enough.

Jenkins is the most prodigious scorer of international points in the British game, his tally standing at 534 when a broken left forearm removed him from Wales's game against England in Cardiff last month. The injury, which occurred in an accidental collision with Richard Hill — the England flanker but, next month, a probable team-mate with the Lions — threatened Jenkins's tour, but he has made a speedy recovery.

Indeed, the rest will have done him good. Pontypridd's challenge for the Welsh League title has not suffered unduly and Jenkins could play in one of their remaining games — against Bridgend, Newport and Newbridge — though the Lions management does not deem it necessary. It does, however, regard as vital the wellbeing of Jenkins's 25-year-old right boot, which should prove a potent weapon in South Africa.

Jenkins joined three other Lions — Paul Grayson, Matt Dawson and Austin Healey — at Northampton for the latest in a series of kicking clinics given by Dave Alred, the Bristol-based coach who will be accompanying the Lions in South Africa. Grayson is already an acknowledged points-scorer, though, like Jenkins, he has been unable to kick over the past seven weeks because of the hip injury that has kept him out of action for Northampton and England.

Dawson and Healey, the two scrum halves, attended to work on their punting skills, though it has been put to Healey that he might consider adding goal-kicking to his bow — a facet which he last exercised on Orrell's behalf. "By the time we are through, a dozen players will be involved and all of them will be doing some form of general punting," Alred said.

Alred, who helped England during the 1995 World Cup in South Africa, believes that Jenkins will be kicking goals from the halfway line in the rarefied atmopshere on the veldt, while the player himself, who has played in Johannesburg and Bloemfontein for Wales and Pretoria with Pontypridd, knows that a drop-out on his own 22 will carry to the opposition dead-ball line.

It is a lesson for ambitious youngsters, however, that an acknowledged master of his trade such as Jenkins is happy to accept whatever advice Alred can impart. He has received little formal coaching, apart from the contributions made by two uncles, Andrew and Peter Chinnock, in his youth, but understands that a specialist such as Alred may perceive and correct some small technical flaw as soon as it appears.

"What needs to be instilled in them is that, when you are on the veldt, the temptation is to smash the ball, whereas you want to make sure that the timing is right and let nature take over," Alred said. The Lions will certainly hope that Jenkins can do what comes naturally in the weeks ahead.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *51*

BIDDY

(a) For Bridget. A generic term for an Irish serving-maid, as Mike or Mick is for an Irish labourer. Such names were once very common: for example, Jack Pudding, a buffoon; Jack Tar, a sailor; Tommy Atkins, a soldier. ***Biddy*** **also denotes a hen, sometimes** ***chick-a-biddy*****. Also, in English dialect, a louse.**

SHEMOZZLE

(c) ***There was a bit of a shemozzle.*** **There was something of a fuss, a bit of a rumpus or a rough and tumble.** ***Shemozzle*** **(bad luck) is a Yiddish word.**

GOLIARDS

(a) Wandering scholars and clerks of the 12th and 13th centuries, called ***vagi scholares aut goliardi*****. There are references to their belonging to "the house of Golias". Or they may have taken their name from Goliath of Gath, or** ***gula*** **the Latin for gullet or gluttony.** ***Goliardic verse*** **consists of satire against the Church, and praise of the delights of love-making and drinking. Its unabashed hedonism is pagan and full of** ***carpe diem*****, eg.** ***Carmina Burana*****.**

DODDYPOLL

(c) A blockhead, a silly ass. ***Poll*** **is head, and** ***doddy*** **is the modern** ***dotty*****, silly, from the verb to dote, to be foolish or silly. There is a comedy called** ***The Wisdom of Doctor Doddypoll*** **(c. 1595), attributed by some to George Peele.**

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Qxd4! exd4; 2. e7 and the pawn costs Black his queen, leaving White a piece ahead.

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Walkinshaw opens up the fast lane to Kingsholm

By David Hands

IF GLOUCESTER are committed to returning to the fast lane of English rugby, as they say they are, they could have found no better backer than the one announced yesterday. Tom Walkinshaw, whose TWR Group controls the Arrows Formula One motor racing team, has injected more than £2 million into the club, and he wants it to be a long-term investment.

Walkinshaw, 50, joins the ranks of owner-investors that began when Sir John Hall took over Newcastle Gosforth. Walkinshaw, a Scot, who lives 40 minutes away from Kingsholm in Chipping Norton, has taken a 73 per cent stake in the club,which will guarantee their ability to build on a season in which success has meant remaining in the first division.

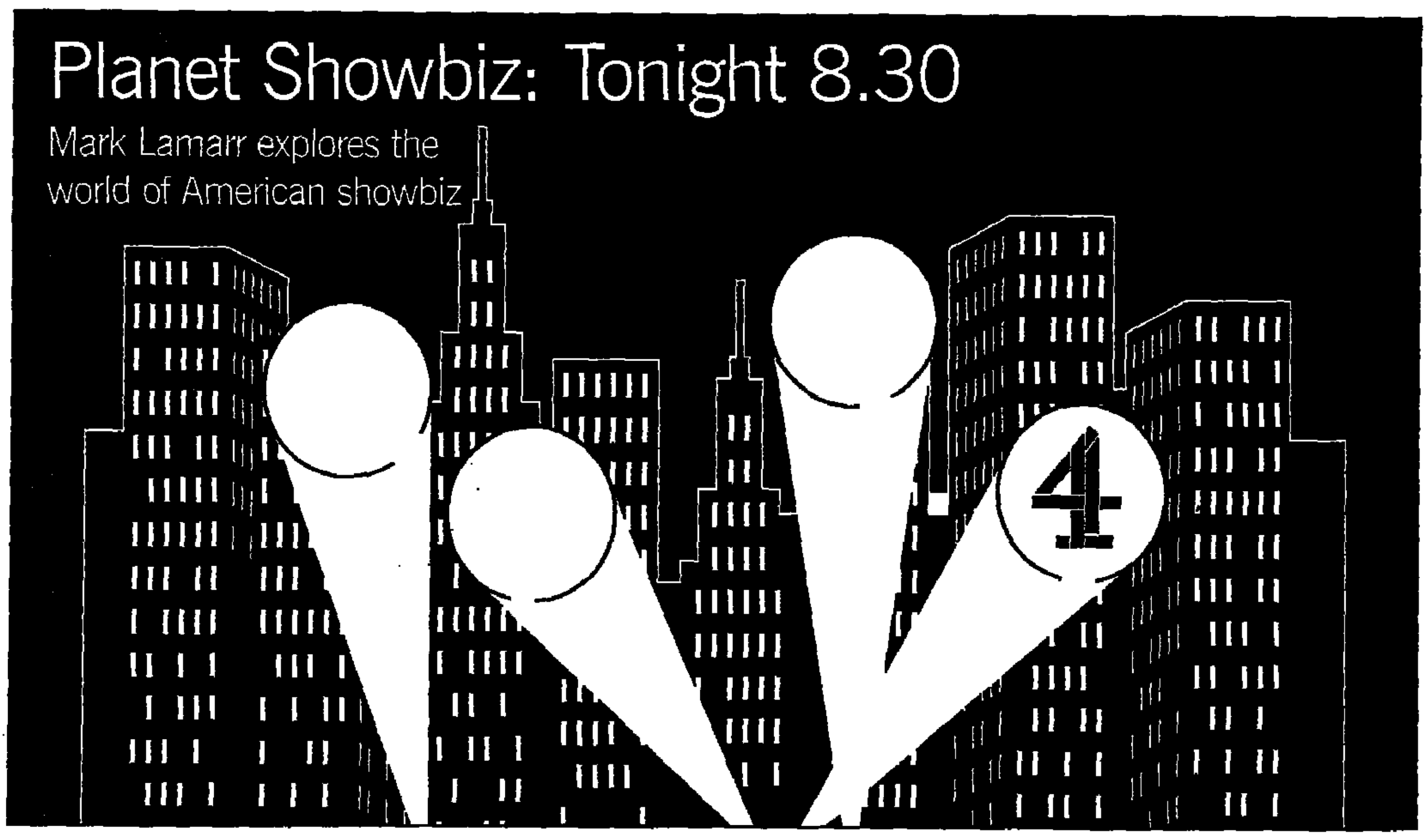
It is not his first venture into rugby, which he played as a boy before suffering an ankle injury. He has supported Preston Lodge in his home town of Prestonpans, but, since living in Oxfordshire, he has been a regular visitor to Gloucester, where he is often to be found on the Shed side — the popular standing area.

"Next to motor racing, rugby's the sport I love most," Walkinshaw, whose group has an annual turnover approaching £300 million, said. "Gloucester have always been my local club and when I was approached [last December] to see if I was interested, it was a big challenge. It's a great honour and an exciting opportunity to help them to build into one of the top teams in the country."

A week earlier, Gloucester signed Philippe Saint-André, the France captain last year, and more international newcomers are expected. "It's a big weight off my mind," Richard Hill, the director of rugby, said. "As a coach, I can begin to build for the future, but my philosophy is to build slowly. We don't want to change Gloucester radically, now that the money is in, but to sustain the club's ethos."

Walkinshaw expects to watch his new acquisition play Bath this evening in the Courage Clubs Championship, which may offer Gloucester's weary players a fresh incentive to do well. Little save pride hangs on the three first division games this evening, though, if London Irish beat Saracens, it could affect the play-off matches next week, which also involve Bristol and, from the second division, Coventry and Bedford.

Two English and two Welsh officials have been included in the first merit-based list of international referees to be announced by the International Rugby Football Board. Ed Morrison (England) will handle Australia's game with New Zealand on July 26 and Derek Bevan (Wales) takes charge of New Zealand v South Africa (August 9). They are joined by Brian Campsall and Clayton Thomas, together with Joel Dume (France), Wayne Eriksson and Peter Marshall (Australia), Paddy O'Brien and Colin Hawke (New Zealand).



Planet Showbiz: Tonight 8.30
Mark Lamarr explores the world of American showbiz
4

TELEVISION CHOICE

Back, but on a different road

Antiques Roadshow
BBC1, 7.00pm

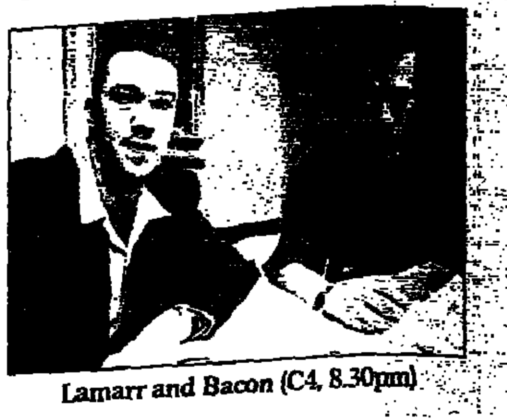
Those who thought that the roadshow had ended its present run last Sunday may be puzzled to see that it has apparently resurfaced. This new series, which confusingly bears the same title, is actually a spin-off which aims to squeeze yet more out of the format that regularly draws ten million viewers. One of the regular strands is recalling old shows through archive footage. Fans of the wonderful Arthur Negus in particular can look forward to enjoying again some of his finest moments. The other main plank is following up some of the more notable finds from the past 20 years. Each programme will explore one subject in detail, beginning with a naval hero, Horatio Nelson, and *HMS Victory*. The irreplaceable Hugh Scully presides.

Planet Showbiz
Channel 4, 8.30pm

The comedian, Mark Lamarr, who, despite his Cockney accent, was born in Swindon, crosses the Atlantic to seek out some of the wackier manifestations of American popular culture. Having warmed up for the task on *Shooting Stars*, Lamarr finds himself at home. One of the items, about the Kevin Bacon game, may be familiar. The idea is to link film stars with Bacon in six moves or fewer. It is an intriguing idea, but tame stuff beside a medically incorrect surf band that campaigns for fat and sugar and dying happy rather than thin. Lamarr also meets Judy Olausen, who uses photographs of her mother to lampoon the traditional wife/mother role of American women. Then there is a magician. Lamarr hates magicians, but he makes an exception for David Blaine, a young street entertainer capable of putting new life into a tired genre.

Modern Times: Shampoo
BBC2, 9.00pm

Whatever people talk about to their hairdressers it does not, apparently, include the merits of the European single currency or even that great British standby, the weather; at least not in this film, which was made in fly-on-the-wall style by putting hidden cameras in four London salons. The topic of conversation for these customers follows a very narrow path. Take away sex and there is not a great deal left, though the lens does capture a lottery winner who is £2.7 million better off yet still, bless her, goes to bingo every week. It might have been different if the cameras had not been hidden (the victims were told afterwards and agreed to let the footage be shown), but the talk is very explicit, not to say coarse. Milder programmes than this have resulted in BBC switchboards being bombarded with complaints.



Lamarr and Bacon (C4, 8.30pm)

Heroes of Comedy: Alastair Sim
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Anybody under 35 would be hard pushed to remember Alastair Sim, of the bald head, boggling eyes and toothy grin, though John Fisher's excellent profile firmly establishes him as one of our greatest comedy actors. His stage work was ephemeral, but his films survive and even the weakest of them demonstrates his qualities. In truth, he made few outstanding films, but he never gave a bad performance. Nigel Hawthorne, Stephen Fry and Patricia Routledge, who know a thing or two about playing comedy, are among those paying tribute to Sim's consummate technique, attention to detail and delicate, understated style. On the personal side, there are affectionate memories from Sim's widow and daughter; but he remains the private man who never gave interviews or signed autographs and even turned down a knighthood. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

After You've Gone
Radio 4, 8.35pm

The Jewish community in the East End areas has shrunk to little more than a tenth of the original 100,000-plus who lived there a century ago. Alan Dein speaks to some of the survivors. His programme could so easily have degenerated into a lament for the death of old days and old ways, but *After You've Gone* is anything but a wake. It is much more of a celebration of an era of resilient survival. As long as there are cheerful old-timers left such as Jack and Sadie, and Anna, a life-long communist, and Joe, a sightless baker, and as long as they are still able to recount their memories of the imperishable characters who dwelt in the ghetto that used to be called "London's Israel", the East End obsequies will have to be put on hold.

Evening Concert
Classic FM, 8.00pm.

Two years before writing the music that perfectly matched the visual shocks in Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*, Bernard Herrmann's score gave an extra twist to the corkscrew tension in Hitchcock's classic thriller, *Vertigo*, and we hear it tonight in a programme devoted entirely to film music. For me, the highlight is Ralph Vaughan Williams's score for *Scott of the Antarctic*, complete with unnecessary wind machine. We also hear Korngold's terrific music for *The Adventures of Robin Hood* and Malcolm Arnold's for *Inn of the Sixth Happiness*. In contrast, Disney's *Fantasia* set animated action to music already written by a variety of celebrated composers, not the other way round. ***Peter Davalle***

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greening, includes **7.30** Newsbeat **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** London Music Week, with Steve Lamacq and John Peel at the Shepherd's Bush Empire **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Clare Sturgess **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Nick Barraclough **8.00** Folk on Two **9.00** Fairport Convention — the First 30 Years **9.30** As Time Goes By **10.00** Horatio Hornblower **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **6.25** International Football Night. Ian Payne introduces action from the World Cup qualifying games featuring Sweden v Scotland and England v Georgia **10.00** Dominik Diamond **11.00** Brian Hayes's Election Night **12.30** After Hours with John Diamond **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.30** World Today **7.45** Sports International **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Meridian Live **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Concert Hall **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Farming World **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.30** One Planet **12.30pm** Sports International **1.05** World Business Report **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Science Update **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Megamix **4.05** Sports Roundup **4.15** Performance **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business Report **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.30** The Works **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack: X-Press **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** On Screen **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack: X-Press **1.30** From Our Own Correspondent **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Omnibus **3.30** Meridian Books **4.05** World Business Report **4.15** Sports Roundup **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **7.00** Mike Read **10.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Election '97 **1.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Haydn (Horn Concerto in D Major) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. J. S. Bach (Recorder Sonata in G Minor, BWV1034) **8.00** Evening Concert. See Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Lunchtime Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Beethoven (Symphony No 4 in B flat); Grieg (Violin Sonata in G, Op 13 No 2); Shostakovich (Prelude and Fugue, Op 87 No 15); Schubert, arr Reimann (Mignon, Lieder); Ponchielli (Dance of the Hours, La Gioconda)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Grieg (Peer Gynt, Suite No 1); Sarasate (Zigeunerweisen); Gershwin (Piano Concerto in F)

10.00 Musical Ecounters, with Edward Blakeman Includes Morley (It Was a Lover and His Lass); Rosseter (What Then is Love?); Dowland (Wilt Thou Unkind Reave Me Thus); Stravinsky (Concerto in D); Britten (Winter Words). Jacques Hétu (Ondes Martenot Concerto); Elgar (The Dream of Gerontius, Part One)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Haydn. Includes Symphony No 31 in D (Hornsignal)

1.00pm Birmingham Lunchtime Concert. A recital given last week in Studio One, Birmingham, by Alexander Rozhdestvensky, violin, and Walter Delahunt, piano. Bartok (Violin concerto No 1); Stravinsky (Suite Italienne)

2.00 Midweek Choice, with Susan Sharpe. Includes Brahms (Academic Festival Overture); Mompou (Variations on a Theme of Chopin); William Russell (Street Music). Call 0171-765 4308 to hear your selection on air

4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Worcester Cathedral

5.00 Music Machine. Tommy Pearson looks back at the glam rock era of the 1970s and assesses David Bowie's role within it

5.15 In Tune, with Jeremy Nicholas. Includes Sibelius (Finlandia); Franck (Grand Caprice); Berners (The Triumph of Neptune); Reinecke (Piano Concerto No 1 in F Sharp Minor)

7.30 Trouble in Tahiti. Sandy Burnett introduces a double bill of American opera from the 1940s and 1950s. Recorded at the Radio Theatre, Broadcasting House in London, with the BBC Concert Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins. With Rebecca Caine, soprano, and David Barrell, baritone. Gian Carlo Menotti (The Telephone); Bernstein (On the Town: Three Dance Episodes) **8.05** The Road to Tahiti. Humphrey Burton discovers the route that took Bernstein from musical to opera via Tahiti **8.25** Concert part two With Kim Criswell, mezzo, David Barrell, baritone, and Rebecca Caine, soprano. Bernstein (Trouble in Tahiti)

9.20 Icarus Rising: Let's Kill the Moonlight. Continuing the series of programmes focusing on writers' obsession with man's wish to fly (3/5)

9.45 A Touch of Romance. Budapest Strings, under Karoly Botvay. Includes Sibelius (Romance for Strings, Op 42)

10.00 *Ensemble.* Penny Gore introduces a recital by Andrew Wilde, piano. Beethoven (Sonata in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 2, Moonlight); Schubert (Fantasy in C, D760, Wanderer)

10.45 Night Waves. Humphrey Carpenter explores the life and work of the literary journalist and essayist Cyril Connolly. Plus a review of the latest Glen Tetley piece for the Royal Ballet

11.30 Composer of the Week: Rachmaninov (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes. The second of three concerts featuring Andy Sheppard's Moving Image recorded at Ronnie Scott's in Birmingham

1.00am Through the Night. Includes **1.00** Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, under Riccardo Chailly. Debussy (La Mer); Loevendie (Piano Concerto). Stravinsky (The Rite of Spring)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.50** Election Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Election Call. On the eve of the general election, Peter Sissons puts listeners' questions to the leader of the Conservative party, John Major. Call 0345 514 814

10.00 News; Survivors: The Estonia Survivors' Story (FM). The Estonia sank in the Baltic Sea on September 28 1994 with the loss of over 850 lives. John Man talks to Kent Harstedt and Sara Hedrenius who kept each other alive during the long hours after the ship had floundered (2/6)

10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray

11.30 Gardeners' Question Time, with Eric Robson, Nigel Colborn, Anne Swithinbank and Pippa Greenwood (r)

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch

12.25pm Imperial Palace. Arnold Bennett's novel, dramatised by Peter Ling. With Robin Ellis and Derek Waring (4/4) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; The Hydro. A new series by Ronald Frame set in a luxury hotel in the Scottish Highlands. With Eliza Langland, David Rintoul, Sheila Donald and Ann Scott Jones (1/4)

2.45 Treasure Islands. Jamila Gavin discusses her work which crosses British and Indian culture

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift. Includes a look at Phil Smith and his group of fiftysomething friends as they set out for Byzantium in search of spiritual inspiration

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Gambaccini sees Johnny Depp and Al Pacino in the new gangster film *Donnie Brasco* and considers the contribution John Wayne made to the film industry

4.45 Short Story: The Peacocks, by Barbara Anderson. Read by Tracy Ann Oberman

5.00 PM 5.45 Election Broadcast **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Brain of Britain (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Coroner. A final look at the world of life and death behind the scenes with the West Yorkshire Coroner's office (6/6)

8.05 Music under Dictatorships. Michael Oliver investigates the impact Benito Mussolini had on musical life in Italy (4/4)

8.35 After You've Gone. See Choice

9.00 Costing the Earth. Jeremy Cherfas looks at the likelihood of Western intervention in the environmental disaster caused by the shrinking of the Aral Sea in Central Asia, one of the many ecological problems associated with decades of Soviet rule

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 *The World Tonight,* with Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: One of Ours, by Willa Cather. Read by Ian Porter (8/12)

11.00 Elvis to Oasis. The second in the series of six light-hearted discussion programmes about music. Chaired by Steve Punt

11.30 Kathmandu or Bust. A comedy by David Napthine and Mike Yeaman. With Michelle Chadwick and Sarah Crowden (2/6) (r)

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: High Fidelity, by Nick Hornby. Read by Alan Davies (8/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

هكذا من الأرشيف

Con-men duo are caught 'bang to rights'

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

The indecent haste with which the powers-that-be at ITV have brought back their new double act, Abbott and Green, should have done them no favours. After all, it's just a few weeks since Paul Abbott's script enabled Robson Green to plant a rainy smacker on the lips of Francesca Annis in *Reckless* and here they were again last night in **Touching Evil** (ITV) — Green playing a policeman and Abbott using up one of the scripts he had left over from *Cracker*.

So let's get the rest of the cynical stuff over at the start. It's another police series, which was not exactly imaginative and within ten minutes it was a more familiar sort of double act. "Both of you," growled Commander Enwright (Michael Feast) of the Organised and Serial Crime Unit, imperiously dispatching both DI Creegan (Green) and DI Taylor (Nicola Walker) to St Albans to solve a series of child abductions. The sharp-eyed among you will have noticed that DI Taylor was a woman. The official line at this stage, agreed in the departure lounge of Stuttgart Airport, was that they don't fancy each other. We shall see.

New paragraph, same cynicism. Creegan's character is straight out of the cupboard marked successful stereotypes — bit of a loner, healthy disregard for rules, doesn't like answering to anybody. Well, I never. As for Green's performance — it's exactly the same as the one he gave in *Reckless*. In fact, the only way of telling Creegan and Owen Springer apart is that Creegan has a scar on his forehead, caused by an ill-advised collision with a bullet. We sorted that out at Stuttgart airport, too.

Still cynical, sorry. The structure of Abbott's script closely resembled the favoured format of *Cracker*, in that we know (or at least we think we know) whodunnit almost from the outset. We know thanks to a preposterous ten minutes in which Creegan spotted daffodils (in December, mind you) at ten paces, yellow Volvos at a hundred yards and recalled an identical case two years ago in . . . Stuttgart. *You could tell he'd been to university, couldn't you?*

Is that enough cynicism? Probably. Because there was good news, albeit of a predictable kind. Creegan and Taylor (you can see why they didn't call it that) may be just another police double act, but Walker was one of the few people to walk away from *Chalk* with her reputation intact and deserves a second chance. As for Green's performance, it was enormously popular in *Reckless* and I'm sure it will be again here, aided and abetted by a riveting contribution from Ian McDiarmid as Hinks, the chief and only suspect.

However, I still have reservations about Abbott's over-stylised, but undeniably well-paced, script, not least because of the presence of Cyril, the over-weight psychic, who sees things "through the clouds". We left him last night, suffering a serious attack of asthma by psychic proxy. Buy that and you're all set for part two.

Over on Channel 4, **One Night Stand**, a *Cutting Edge* special, managed to encapsulate much of what is wrong with modern documentary-making. A cheap come-on of a title, some deeply unimaginative research, intrusive camerawork and a tedious hour spent in the company of four people convinced that the sun shone *out of their sex lives.*

From the outset, Edmund Coulthard, the director, made it clear that this was a film about people who deliberately set out for one night stands, rather than encounter them accidentally. It was a decision that robbed his film of much of its potential humour and — how can I put this delicately — a possible reference point or two for those watching.

It was also a decision that led straight to his far too predictable subjects: the self-consciously single mother, a *promiscuous* gay male and, *inevitably, two "lads" who* shared a house and a laddish lifestyle together. All four were united by a single over-riding urge: to be on television.

They would do anything. "OK if we film you getting into the bath, Jean-Yves?" Fine, *said our glad-to-be-gay man from Réunion.* "How about hoiking your tights up, Bonnie?" I'm wearing trousers, will my friend's do? They would. "Mark mate, how about we mike you up while your former girlfriend tells you that she's 24 and doesn't want to be just a shag?" 'Andsome.

Part one was getting ready and talking, endlessly, about "it". Part two was clubbing and part three, after a symbolic montage of blurred headlights, was the morning after. Mathematically the *success rate* was 75 per cent, but *it gradually became apparent that the picture was more complex than that.* One of the lads had slept with an "ex" (yes, the same one) which hardly counted, while the other two appeared to be at the start of something more.

An unspecified number of weeks later. Bonnie and her fling were tip-toeing round the dread word "commitment" and Jean-Yves was looking rather mournful about not having shown a little more of it to David. The conclusion? Life is thankfully a lot more complicated than the makers of trite documentaries would have you believe.

But nothing like as complicated as it's getting for Gary Sparrow (Nicholas Lyndhurst) in **Goodnight Sweetheart** (BBC1): "Tomorrow I'll have two wives, 54 years apart and, in a few months time, a kid old enough to be my father." Helped by the seamless recasting of Elizabeth Carling and Emma Amos in the female leads and the ever-reliable Victor McGuire, the series is showing surprisingly little sign of running out of steam. Last night, it even notched up a television first — a rude and very funny joke about reflexology. And no, you can't do it to yourself.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (59653)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (70171924)

9.05 Election Call Prime Minister John Major answers questions posed by viewers on *the eve of the general election* (9870295)

10.00 Style Challenge (41059)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (99011)

11.00 News (T) **Regional News** and Weather (4067059)

11.05 The Really Useful Show (9593450)

11.35 Snooker: World Championship Coverage from the quarter-finals at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre (3762634)

12.35pm Good Living (9117127)

1.00 News (T) and weather (57108)

1.30 Regional News (50747011)

1.45 Neighbours (40632437)

2.10 Snooker and Racing Snooker: Dougie Donnelly introduces live coverage of the quarter-finals from Sheffield. Racing from Ascot: Julian Wilson introduces the **3.05** *Insulpak Sagaro Stakes and* **3.40** *Insulpak Victoria Cup* (493547)

4.00 Monster Cafe (5611740) **4.15** Gadget Boy (8597818) **4.35** Out of Tune (7844127) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5595276) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (2788437)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (494837)

6.00 News (T) and weather (189)

6.30 Regional News (769)

7.00 Antiques Roadshow Hugh Scully takes a nostalgic look at highlights from previous series (T) (7856)

7.30 Tomorrow's World Philippa Forrester tries out a pressurised chamber for athletes to sleep in; and a pen which translates languages (T) (653)

8.00 The National Lottery Live Carol Smillie introduces the millionaire-making draw from Glasgow, with guests Ant and Dec (T) (992295)

8.10 Ballykissangel A *brush with death* leaves Ambrose with second thoughts about marrying Niamh, and he considers entering the priesthood instead — can Father Clifford and Assumpta persuade him to go ahead with the wedding? (r) (T) (310189)

9.00 News (T) *and weather* (5585)

9.59 National Lottery Update (290180)

10.00 They Think It's All Over Funnyman Stephen Fry joins regulars Gary Lineker, David Gower, Lee Hurst and Rory McGrath for the comedy sports quiz, hosted by Nick Hancock (T) (81092)

10.30 Sportsnight Desmond Lynam presents extensive highlights of England's crucial World Cup qualifier against the talented Georgians at Wembley. Plus, the pick of the action from Scotland's game in Sweden, the Republic of Ireland's tie in Romania and Northern Ireland's visit to Armenia. Snooker's World Championship, meanwhile, has reached the quarter-final stage (T) (96818)

12.30am Cops and Robbers (1973) with Cliff Gorman and Joseph Bologna. Light-hearted crime caper about a couple of New York cops who pull off a million-dollar heist on Wall Street, only to fall foul of the Mob. Directed by Aram Avakian (5180604)

1.55 Weather (3551401)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am O.U.: Living with Cracks (2764837) **6.25** Empowerment (2776672) **6.50** Inspection by Torchlight (5712519)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (8551450)

7.30 Teenage Turtles (r) (4642905) **7.55** The Lowdown (r) (T) (5144479) **8.20** Philbert the Frog (r) (3663924) **8.25** Buzzy Bee and Friends (r) (7635301) **8.35** The Raccoons (r) (9362837)

9.00 Discovering Portuguese (3990382) **9.25** Belief File (8438160) **9.45** *Words and Pictures (2645856)* **10.00** Teletubbies (32301) **10.30** Numbertime (2854363) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (2859818) **11.00** Moving to English (4034189) **11.20** The Art (7439924) **11.40** Study Ireland: Geography (6550721) **12.00** *The Shape of the World (88905)*

12.30pm Working Lunch (15547)

1.00 Geography Collection (70174092) **1.25** Zig Zag (64595740) **1.45** Come Outside (50740108) **2.00** Philbert the Frog (r) (37675566) **2.05** Buzzy Bee and Friends (r) (37674837)

2.10 Racing from Ascot the **2.30** Insulpak Conditions Stakes. *Coverage continues on BBC1* (2160721)

2.50 A-Z of Food: H is for Honey (r) (7836818) **3.00** News (T) (7021924) **3.05** Campaign Roadshow (T) (9268059) **3.55** News (T) (6149108)

4.00 Snooker Quarter-final coverage continued from BBC1 (38799617)

5.50 Lifeline (r) (T) (123363)

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (r) (T) (255672)

6.45 Snooker The final session of the quarter-finals (454276)

7.30 Black Britain Profile of merchant banker *Laurie May* (T) (295)

8.00 University Challenge *Manchester v* Glamorgan (T) (1818)

8.30 Home Front Home improvement magazine (T) (3653)

Confession profession (9.00pm)

9.00 Modern Times Quirky look at the intimacy of the hairdressers chair. *Last in series* (T) (378059)

9.50 A Woman Called Smith Profile of Christina, who had a major role in the transformation of Covent Garden (T) (213011)

10.00 Airport Last in series (r) (T) (89634)

10.30 Newsnight (69276)

11.30 Face to Face Sir Jeremy Isaacs in conversation with Allen Ginsberg, who died earlier this month (r) (941160)

12.10am Close Up (9741642)

12.25 Weather (9072791)

12.30-6.00 O.U.: *Environmental Solutions* **1.00** Large Scale Production **1.30** It's Only Plastic **2.00** RE Collection **4.00** English Heritage **4.30** Unicef in the Classroom 5.00 *Making the Curriculum Work* **5.30-6.00** Voluntary Matters

HTV

6.00am GMTV (6058672)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (T) (3997295)

9.55 Regional News (2019382)

10.00 The Time, the Place (36127)

10.30 This Morning (61479943)

12.20pm Regional News (4723011)

12.30 News (T) and weather (9103924)

12.55 Shortland Street (9111943) **1.24** HTV Crimestoppers (35623566) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (64580818) **1.50** Afternoon Live (37587568) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (35662063) **2.50** Afternoon Live (5386214)

3.20 News (T) (7038214) **3.25** Regional News and weather (T) (7037585)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (6574295) **3.40** Tots TV (9125450) **3.50** Oscar and Friends (r) (6137363) **3.55** *Sooty and Co (6410092)* **4.20** Tiny Toon Adventures (T) (5617924) **4.40** Harry's Mad (r) (T) (8659566)

5.10 Bagdad Cafe (r) (1960295)

5.40 News (T) and weather (660943)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (404740)

6.25 HTV Weather (380721)

6.30 The West Tonight (T) (837)

7.00 Emmerdale Chris turns to Zoe in his hour of need (T) (2924)

7.30 Coronation Street Alma busies herself making plans for the future (T) (721)

8.00 The Hypnotic World of Paul McKenna The master of mesmerism is joined by Gareth Hunt, Bobby Davro, Vinnie Jones, *Bob Holness, Roy Barraclough,* Debbie Greenwood and Garry Bushell (T) Followed by National Lottery result (7189)

Helen Mirren stars (9.00pm)

9.00 Prime Suspect IV Did Jane Tennison jail *the wrong man back in the original Prime Suspect?* A spate of similar murders suggests she committed a terrible blunder in the case that made her name. Suspended from duty, she turns to psychologist lover *Patrick Schofield for moral support — but encounters only* betrayal. With Helen Mirren. **Continues after the news** (r) (T) (4063)

10.00 News (T) and weather (76160)

10.30 Regional News (123547)

10.40 Prime Suspect IV Conclusion of tonight's drama (r) (T) (8274547)

11.45 Hunter (r) (159721)

12.15am Beadle Late Adults-only mayhem presented by the Jermey Beadle (39046)

12.45 Movie Club (89587)

1.15 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (4751994)

1.40 *Roughcut* *(1980)* Comic crime caper with Burt Reynolds, Leslie-Anne Down and David Niven. Comic *Directed by* Don Siegel (491710)

3.35 Not Fade Away (7254791)

4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (47791) **5.00** Coronation Street (r) (T) *(23623)* **5.30** *News (83420)*

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9111943)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1960295)

6.25-7.00 Central News (779837)

11.45 Highlander (423189)

12.40am Dating the Enemy (2344517)

1.45 Club Nation (795265)

2.45 Bonkers (1916802)

3.40 The Chart Show (1957352)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (2415566)

1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (70187566)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1960295)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (10092)

11.45 Swift Justice (577363)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55-1.25 A *Country Practice* *(9111943)*

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1960295)

6.00 Meridian Tonight *(585)*

6.30-7.00 Doing It Up (837)

9.00 In Suspicious Circumstances (4063)

10.45 The Road Show (160837)

11.15 The Bottom Line (150450)

11.45 Blur in Concert (577363)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (9111943)

5.10 Shortland Street (1960295)

6.25-7.00 Anglia News (779837)

11.45 Blur in Concert (577363)

S4C

Starts: *6.00am Sesame Street* (42363)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (70059)

9.00 Bewitched (93837)

9.30 Those British Faces: Wilfrid Hyde White (39127)

10.00 *Film:* The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan (49551585)

11.55 Labrythm (5372653)

12.00 Rotbusters (16671)

12.30pm Ricki Lake (33943)

1.00 Slot Meithrin (86641522)

1.15 Lisabeth (81691027)

1.30 *Film:* The Pure Hell of St Trinian's (76220498)

3.15 Rocko's Modern Life (8463092)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (943)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (450)

4.30 Mrs Cohen's Money (634)

5.00 5 Pump (6438721)

5.15 Ffeil (5590721)

5.30 Countdown (214)

6.00 Newyddion (933699)

6.05 Heno (499818)

6.35 Bob Yn Ddau (397011)

7.00 Pobol y Cwm (509189)

7.25 Ffermio (890214)

8.00 Elinor (9214)

8.30 Newyddion (8721)

9.00 Spin City (1653)

9.30 Roseanne (20479)

10.00 Brookside (213932)

10.35 ER (225214)

11.30 Snwcer (23653)

12.00 Midnight Special (48178)

1.30-5.25 Under the Moon (9460536)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (42363) **7.00** The *Big Breakfast (70059)* **9.00** *Bewitched* (r) (T) (93837) **9.30** Those British Faces: Wilfrid Hyde White (39127)

10.00 The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan (1953) A lavish biopic with Robert Morley, Maurice Evans and Wilfrid Hyde White, *featuring the London Symphony* Orchestra conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent. Directed by Sidney Gilliat (49551585)

11.55 Labrythm Computer animation (5372653)

12.00 Rotbusters A look at the work of two men who tackle dry rot (r) (T) (16671)

12.30pm *Light Lunch* Cookery, chat and audience participation (43059)

1.30 Australia Wild (r) (T) (32214)

2.00 Pony Soldier (1953) with Tyrone Power. A western adventure about a Mountie in America trying to persuade a tribe of Cree Indians to release their captives and return to Canada. *Directed* by Joseph M. Newman (T) (85127)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (943) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (450) **4.30** Countdown (T) (634) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (3030) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (214)

6.00 Party of Five Teen drama series (T) (231092)

6.50 Fresh Pop (135635)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T). Includes headlines and weather at **7.30** (2011)

8.00 Brookside Elaine is furious when she discovers Gladys has written a living will. Will Jacqui fall prey to Ben's charms? Max is overcome with emotion while out with Ollie (T) (9214)

8.30 Planet Showbiz Mark Lamarr presents a new series about the American showbiz scene (T) (8721)

Actor Alastair Sim (9.00pm)

9.00 Heroes of Comedy: Alastair Sim A tribute to the comic actor (T) (8295)

10.00 ER The staff have an unpleasant lesson to learn (T) (1382)

11.00 Friends: The One Where Eddie Moves In Joey wants to move back in with *Chandler — but there is a snag* (r) (T) (3498)

11.30 Roseanne Now that they are wealthy, Roseanne and Jackie are invited to an exclusive country club (T) (23653)

12.00 Midnight Special Vincent Hanna is joined by Roy Hattersley, *Steve Norris, Emma Nicholson, Germaine Greer, The Times* columnist Matthew Parris and representatives of the opinion pollsters (48178)

1.30am Under the Moon Through-the-night sports magazine featuring NBA XXL, *High Five, Board Stupid and Naked Sport* (9460536)

5.25-6.00 Backdate with Valerie Singleton (r) (T) (6937536)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

Channel 5 is *now broadcasting* on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt decoder** will be able to receive the channel free of charge. *Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture:* **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (7280092)

7.30 Havakazoo (2300450) **8.00** Adventures *of the Bush Patrol (2935479)*

8.30 WideWorld *Examining the 15th century* Venetian church the Santa dei Miracoli a fine example of early Renaissance church architecture (2927450)

9.00 Espresso (5927301) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (6235450) **10.30** Fame and Fortune: *Lennox Lewis* (r) (2947214)

11.00 Leeza *Chat* show (9174498) **11.50** *Double Espresso* (45731943)

12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (2938566) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (9812382)

1.00 5 News Update (92842818)

1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (6937092) **2.00** 5's Company (6126437)

3.30 Indiscreet (1988) A romantic drama with Robert Wagner and Lesley-Anne Down about the clandestine love affair between *an actress and a diplomat* (4815721)

5.20 5's Company: *Late Extra* *(14702127)*

5.30 *100 Per Cent* *Game show without a host* (1884585)

6.00 Whittle Audience participation quiz (T) (1881498)

6.30 Family Affairs Holly wakes up and is shocked to find an unexpected bedmate (T) (1865450)

7.00 Exclusive Showbiz news (1782634)

7.30 Wild States The musk ox returns to Alaska (T) (1861634)

8.00 The Great Garden Game *from* the grounds of Blenheim Palace where the contestants are set a two-part challenge on the theme of topiary (T) (1791382)

8.30 5 News (1787189)

9.00 Spies, Lies and Naked Thighs (1988) with Harry Anderson, Ed Begley Jr and Linda Purl. A *comedy thriller about a CIA man's efforts to prevent the assassination* of the President. Directed by James Frawley (1388721)

Jack Docherty (11.00pm)

11.00 *The Jack Docherty Show* Comedy and chat (4793473)

11.40 Tibs and Fibs Irreverent medical quiz presented by Tony Slattery with doctors Phil Hammond, Tony Gardner and Hilary Jones. *The guests are Rowland Rivron* and Gayle Tuesday (2089856)

12.10am *Live and Dangerous* Sports magazine featuring US major league baseball (90728523)

4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4537517)

5.30-6.00 100 Per Cent (r) (2878401)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (588059) 9.00 Regis and Kathie Lee (29924) 10.00 Another World (53130) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (91566) 12.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (74214) 1.00pm Geraldo (50634) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (57634) 3.00 Jenny Jones (50160) 4.00 Oprah with the Stars (78295) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (4301) 6.00 Real TV (7363) 6.30 Married — with Children (1943) 7.00 The Simpsons (5030) 7.30 M*A*S*H (3127) 8.00 Beverley Hills 90210 (99547) 9.00 Melrose Place (92634) 11.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (12059) 12.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (35807) 12.30am L.A.P.D. (12468) 1.00 Hit Mix Long Play (9590913)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (4012653) 7.30 Superboy (3765460) 8.00 Renegade (1144566) 9.00 New York Undercover (1157030) 10.00 Water Rats (1134189) 11.00 Late Show with David Letterman (6642011) 12.00 Hit Mix (2358352)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come (1961) (43740) 8.00 The Long Summer of George Adams (1982) (71214) 10.00 Clean Slate (1994) (66295) 12.00 Heart Like a Wheel (1983) (61837) 2.00pm Problem Child III (1995) (64011) 3.30 Where the River Runs Black (1986) (25189) 5.30 Dreamer (1979) (46572) 7.00 Problem Child II (1995) (47063) 9.00 Clean Slate (1994) (10030) 11.00 Angels and Insects (1995) (70818) 1.00am Object of Obsession (1994) (422555) 2.40 An Unmarried Woman (1978) (61280554)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Harry Black and the Tiger (1958) (41382) 8.00 The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1959) (78856) 10.00 To Be or Not to Be (1942) (54837) 12.00 Three Women (1977) (12930856) 2.10pm Never Give Up: The Jimmy V Story (1996) (490289) 4.00 The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1959) (4547) 6.00 Leapin' Leprechauns (1995) (37943) 7.30 E! News Week in Review (8027) 8.00 Six Degrees of Separation (1993) (19301) 10.00 Species (1995) (796818) 11.50 Threesome (1994) (358769) 1.25am Breach of Conduct (1994) (931888) 3.00 Wishman (1995) (28555) 4.30 Tales of Washington Irving (1992) (51826)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00am Rawhide (1951) (8941634) 8.00 Beetlejuice (1988) (8953479) 10.00 No Mercy (1986) (2791547) 11.55 Cherry 2000 (1987) (2964740) 1.35pm Silent Movie (1976) (52454826) 3.05 The Lost World (1960) (7858265) 4.45 Cat People (1942) (71388159)

TNT

9.00pm Ironclads (1991) (43448295) 11.15 Gaslight (1944) (89968740) 1.15am The Barretts of Wimpole Street (1957) (75845826) 3.05-5.00 Red Dust (1932) (15183517)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (41585) 7.30 Shotgun Challenge (77566) 8.30 Racing News (39547) 9.00 Sports Centre (52127) 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style (65189) 10.00 The Footballers' Football Show (26276) 11.00 Live Cricket (7989837) 2.30pm Boxing Special (1108) 3.00 Live Cricket (4960740) 7.00 Live Football (1549189) 11.30 Boxing Special (71498) 12.00 Futbol Mundial (86791) 12.30am International Football (888081) 3.00-3.30 Sports Centre (99474)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Boxing Special (93981789) 12.30pm International Football (86226837) 2.00 Live Table Tennis: World Championships (31789127) 6.00 Sports Centre (42814295) 6.30 Boxing Special (42805547) 7.00 Live International Cricket: West Indies v India (70811082) 10.30-11.30 Benson and Hedges Cup Cricket (55327108)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Ice Hockey (15160) 8.00 Football (92479) 9.00 Motorcycling (47295) 9.30 IndyCar (71634) 11.00 Ice Hockey (11295) 11.30 Karting (20585) 12.30pm Basketball (87301) 1.00 Live Ice Hockey (8752586) 4.30 Olympic Games (9740) 5.00 Live Ice Hockey (1547721) 8.30 Motors (6617) 9.00 Football (41924) 11.00 Ice Hockey (26016) 11.30 Tennis (25059) 12.00-12.30am Olympic Games (68159)

UK GOLD

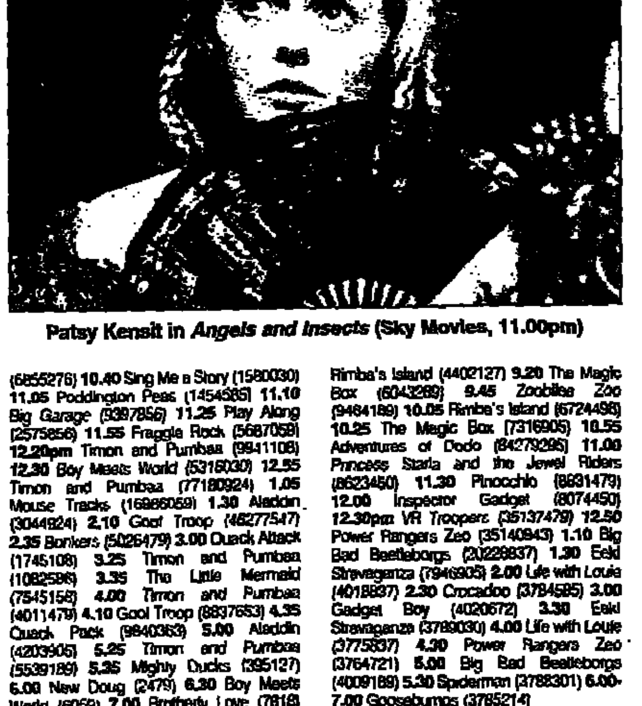
7.00am Tellystack (1855382) 7.35 Neighbours (5433059) 8.00 Crossroads (3431276) 8.25 EastEnders (6872498) 9.00 The Bill (5732978) 9.30 Don't Wait Up (1650699) 10.00 Robin's Nest (4507092) 10.30 The Sullivans (9532130) 11.00 Casualty (88653721) 12.05pm Crossroads (21120504) 12.30 Neighbours (7050635) 1.00 EastEnders (8842296) 1.35 On the Up (6846634) 2.15 A Little Bit of Dawson (33914109) 2.20 Sorry! (8758769) 2.55 'Allo, 'Allo! (8907784) 3.30 The Bill (2584479) 4.00 Boon (5348905) 5.00 Generation Game (30458498) 6.05 EastEnders (4260818) 6.40 Sykes (1168450) 7.20 Russ Abbot (4345479) 7.50 Rising Damp (6487653) 8.20 In Sickness and in Health (8491011) 9.00 The Bill (5344189) 9.30 Frank Stubbs (45859818) 10.40 Sports Anorak of the Year (6720059) 11.15 Hazell (4546721) 12.15am The Equalizer (8686888) 1.05 Callan (5405826) 2.05 Shopping at Night (53338807)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Krypton Factor (5077011) 6.30 The Return of the Antelope (2923818) 7.00 Classic Coronation Street (4463059) 7.30 Families (1419943) 9.00 The Professionals (5093059) 10.00 Krypton Factor (2947498) 10.30 Doctor on the Go (5100547) 11.00 Within These Walls (4451214) 12.00 Classic Coronation Street (5124127) 12.30pm Families (6967363) 1.00 Crown Court (4455030) 1.30 The Good Life Guide (6968634) 2.00 A Family at War (2948127) 3.00 Upstairs, Downstairs (3633498) 4.00 Surprise, Surprise (3613905) 5.00 The Professionals (5271653) 6.00 Families (5687653) 6.30 Classic Coronation Street (1982045) 7.00 Surprise, Surprise (2565189) 8.00 Upstairs, Downstairs (2574837) 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (3618189) 9.30 The Comedians (8987127) 10.00-11.00 The Professionals (2557160)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Mouse Tracks (7120092) 6.25 Quack Attack (7149127) 6.50 Bonkers (1651856) 7.15 The Little Mermaid (7080011) 7.40 Aladdin (4041127) 8.05 Quack Pack (5982933) 8.30 Goof Troop (94127) 9.00 The Care Bears (3010634) 9.25 Pooh Corner (3039769) 9.50 Muppet Babies (8995479) 10.15 Groundling Marsh (6855276) 10.40 Sing Me a Story (1580030) 11.05 Poddington Peas (1454585) 11.10 Big Garage (9397856) 11.25 Play Along (2575856) 11.55 Fraggle Rock (5687059) 12.20pm Timon and Pumbaa (9941108) 12.30 Boy Meets World (5316030) 12.55 Timon and Pumbaa (77180924) 1.05 Mouse Tracks (16986059) 1.30 Aladdin (3044924) 2.10 Goof Troop (48277547) 2.35 Bonkers (5026479) 3.00 Quack Attack (1745108) 3.25 Timon and Pumbaa (1082596) 3.35 The Little Mermaid (7545158) 4.00 Timon and Pumbaa (4011479) 4.10 Goof Troop (8837653) 4.35 Quack Pack (9840363) 5.00 Aladdin (4203905) 5.25 Timon and Pumbaa (5539189) 5.35 Mighty Ducks (395127) 6.00 New Doug (2479) 6.30 Boy Meets World (6059) 7.00 Brotherly Love (7818) 7.30 FILM: The Nightmare Before Christmas (134108) 8.40 Bone Chillers (510740) 9.00-10.00 Touched by an Angel (73547)



Patsy Kensit in *Angels and Insects* (Sky Movies, 11.00pm)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (1177363) 6.30 Inspector Gadget (7530059) 7.00 Samurai Pizza Cats (6833363) 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo (6652498) 8.00 Big Bad Beetleborgs (8071363) 8.30 Crocadoo (8070634) 9.00 Rimba's Island (4402127) 9.20 The Magic Box (6043289) 9.45 Zoobilee Zoo (9464189) 10.05 Rimba's Island (6724498) 10.25 The Magic Box (7316905) 10.55 Adventures of Dodo (84279298) 11.00 Princess Starla and the Jewel Riders (8623450) 11.30 Pinocchio (8931479) 12.00 Inspector Gadget (8074450) 12.30pm VR Troopers (35137479) 12.50 Power Rangers Zeo (35140943) 1.10 Big Bad Beetleborgs (20228837) 1.30 Eek! Stravaganza (7946905) 2.00 Life with Louie (4018837) 2.30 Crocadoo (3784585) 3.00 Gadget Boy (4020672) 3.30 Eek! Stravaganza (3789030) 4.00 Life with Louie (3775837) 4.30 Power Rangers Zeo (3764721) 5.00 Big Bad Beetleborgs (4009189) 5.30 Spiderman (3788301) 6.00-7.00 Goosebumps (3785214)

TCC

6.00am Road to Avonlea (88127) 7.00 Dennis the Menace (42498) 8.00 Batman (91030) 8.30 Art Attack (90301) 9.00 Flash Gordon (81653) 9.30 Bobby's World (27943) 10.00 Romuald the Reindeer (36437) 10.30 Robinson Sucroe (87837) 11.00 Danger Mouse (62943) 11.30 Gravedale High (63672) 12.00 Oscar's Orchestra (78189) 12.30pm Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (38059) 1.00 By Way of the Stars (45924) 1.30 The Black Beauty (20030) 2.00 The Girl from Tomorrow (9276) 2.30 Ocean Odyssey (7924) 3.00 Art Attack (1011) 3.30 Flash Gordon (9769) 4.00 Batman (8276) 4.30-5.00 The Big Dish (7160)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from 5.00am to 9.00pm. Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula (72030) 6.30 Rocko's Modern Life (18769) 7.00 Hey Arnold! (49127) 7.30 Rugrats (28634) 8.00 Doug (37818) 8.30 Arthur (36189) 9.00 CBBC (59450) 10.00 Wimzie's House (92721) 10.30 Babar (49653) 11.00 Magic School Bus (24789) 11.30 Mr Men/King Rollo/Barney/Topsy and Tim/Skylark (25498) 12.00 Bananas in Pyjamas (30905) 12.30pm Little Bear Stories (67547) 1.00 CBBC (88030) 2.00 The Wubbulous World of Dr Seuss (7030) 2.30 Kissyfur (2450) 3.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (3837) 3.30 Bruno the Kid (4295) 4.00 Jumanji (6030) 4.30 Rugrats (2214) 5.00 Sister Sister (6382) 5.30 Moesha (3566) 6.00 Press Gang (1738) 6.30-7.00 Doug (4059)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High (4505360) 1.00pm Madison (4450160) 1.30 Sweet Valley High (2106784) 2.00 Hangtime (3902818) 2.30 California Dreams (2590030) 3.00 Byker Grove (3914653) 3.30 Blast (2579547) 4.00 Sweet Valley High (2581382) 4.30 Hangtime (2587566) 5.00 Saved by the Bell (3828498) 5.30 California Dreams (2578818) 6.00 Byker Grove (2508059) 6.30 Madison (2582011) 7.00-8.00 Heartbreak High (9879856)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (3915382) 9.00 Monsters (5362585) 9.30 Monsters (9650419) 10.00 Tour of Duty (9878127) 11.00 FILM: Maniac Cop 3: Badge of Silence (3770158) 1.00am Starsky and Hutch (4477284) 2.00 Tour of Duty (7925739) 3.00 FILM: Stardust (3953710) 5.00 The New Twilight Zone (8036642) 5.30 The New Twilight Zone (8541081)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Entertainment UK (5818) 7.30 Roseanne (3943) 8.00 Roseanne (4565) 8.30 Monty Python's Flying Circus (6301) 9.00 Cheers (52455) 9.30 Cybill (70011) 10.00 Frasier (31634) 10.30 It's Garry Shandling's Show (40382) 11.00 Comedy Store (80450) 11.30 Nightstand (13547) 12.30am Carnal Knowledge (26420) 1.30 Cybill (37449) 2.00 Entertainment UK (56536) 2.30 Comedy Store (78371) 3.00 Frasier (99456) 3.30-4.00 It's Garry Shandling's Show (69623)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Tenchi Muyo (7970672) 8.30 The Twilight Zone (7988479) 9.00 FILM: Hellgate (94890498) 10.35 FILM: Night of the Living Dead (44399914) 12.00 The Incredible Hulk (9089772) 12.35am FILM: Damien: Omen II (67789082) 2.50 New Buzz Bytes (91088352) 3.00 Dark Shadows (9239623) 3.30-4.00 Dark Shadows (5243333)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting (1037360) 9.30 Garden Calendar (7955081) 10.00 The Great Gardening Plot (4505634) 10.30 Doing It Up (1332112) 11.00 The Painted House (5355295) 11.30 This Old House with Steve and Norm (5356924) 12.00 Yan Can Cook (7637504) 12.30pm Graham Kerr (9850617) 1.00 Today's Gourmet (4463634) 1.30 Home Again with Bob Vila (4184016) 2.00 Hometime (3908092) 2.30 Furniture to Go (2570276) 3.00 Two's Country Cooking (3927127) 3.30-4.00 This Old House with Steve and Norm (2575721)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures II (2594856) 4.30 Roadshow (2583740) 5.00 Terra X (3922672) 5.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (2574092) 6.00 Wild Things: Wildfilm (2571905) 6.30 Wild Things: The Global Family (2595585) 7.00 Beyond 2000 (3919108) 7.30 Disaster (2591769) 8.00 Arthur C Clarke's World of Strange Powers (3928856) 8.30 The Quest (3907363) 9.00 Unexplained (9871214) 10.00 The Science of Star Trek (9874301) 11.00 Warriors (4473011) 12.00 Classic Wheels (8030468) 1.00am Disaster (7704046) 1.30-2.00 Beyond 2000 (2928352)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Ancient Mysteries (1950585) 5.00 Godfathers v the Law (7950295) 6.00 1900-2000, Legend of the Century (2547540) 7.00-8.00 Biography: Solomon and Sheba (4475301)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with Prize Time twice an hour.

5.05 Blockbusters (1430437) 5.50 Family Fortunes (370818) 6.30 Catchphrase (293856) 7.05 Sale of the Century (337924) 7.40 Give Us A Clue (148127) 8.20 All Clued Up (273547) 9.00 Through the Keyhole (514092) 9.35 Busman's Holiday (409721) 10.05 Treasure Hunt (974818) 11.20 Love at First Sight (749634) 12.00 Sale of the Century (19807) 12.30am Hart to Hart (71994) 1.30 FILM: The Child Saver (42710) 3.30 My Two Dads (38897) 4.00 The Fall Guy (13604) 5.00 HSN Direct Shopping (5097401)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (35410301) 9.05 Gladrags and Glamour (5541295) 9.15 Gordon Elliott (6067450) 10.05 Jerry Springer (7933127) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (6279479) 11.50 Brookside (2547721) 12.25pm Why Me? (23572504) 12.55 Tempestt (8117092) 1.40 Rolonda (8453943) 2.30 The Agony Experience (9904769) 3.00 Live at Three (26594295) 4.05 Jerry Springer (9381634) 5.05 Lingo (79161363) 5.30 Lucky Ladders (9908585) 6.00 I Dream of Jeannie (3056276) 6.35 Ready, Steady, Cook (2445721) 7.05 Hearts Afire (1380856) 7.35 Brookside (2099011) 8.05 Rolonda (5896301) 9.00 FILM: Necessity (8943092) 11.00-12.00 The Spicy Sex Files (2385943)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran 7.30 ZEE Morning 8.00 ZEE Calling 8.30 Maa 9.00 Bengali serial: Ebar Jumbo Mawja 9.30 Chalo Cinema 10.00 Tara 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Dance Mania 12.00 Darbar 12.30pm Rashat 1.00 FILM: Allah Akbar 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents 4.10 Public Demand 5.10 Alif Laila 6.00 Campus 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Kamal Kombination 7.30 Banegi Apni Baat 8.00 News and Euronews 8.35 Dastaan 9.05 Awards Hi Awards 10.00 Hit Thi Hit Hai 10.30 Purush Kshetra 11.30-12.00 Mano Ya Na Mano

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

EQUESTRIANISM 53
Whitakers lead
the charge for
World Cup honours

SPORT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 30 1997

RUGBY UNION 54
Kick-start sets
Lions on road
to South Africa

Sheringham set for England return

Shearer revels in match with perfect partner

By Oliver Holt, Football Correspondent

THE patriotic drum will be beating again, the capacity crowd will be in rude voice and selective memories will be *standing by*, ready to banish the lingering disappointment of the 1-0 defeat by Italy in February to their darkest recesses. England's World Cup *group two qualifying match* against Georgia at Wembley tonight is as much about recapturing a mood as securing three more points to take *them towards the finals in* France next year.

This match that seemed as though it might be inconsequential once, sandwiched as it is in the middle of the England campaign, has become a seminal tie now, an encounter that, together with the game against Poland in Katowice next month, will decide whether England can *indeed recover their poise* and go on to Rome in October with the big prize left to play for.

It is about regaining the momentum built up so painstakingly in the prelude to the European championship last year and then allowed to run wild during the tournament. It is about trying to restore that invaluable feeling of confidence that lulled so many *supporters into believing that* England were favourites to beat the Italians that night at Wembley, even though key players were missing.

The defeat against Italy that suddenly cast into doubt the *ability to qualify for the World* Cup punctured much of the euphoria left over from Euro 96 and the empty victory over Mexico in the international match last month did little to inflate it again. A victory tonight, though, in a bona fide competitive tie, would bring the "feel-good" factor flooding back.

In some respects, of course, *after the loss to an Italian team* rejuvenated by the stewardship of Cesare Maldini, the rest of the England qualifying campaign seems doomed to be an exercise in damage-limitation, a scramble for second place in the group and qualification via a play-off. But if the mood in the England camp at Bisham Abbey this week has *fallen short of a brooding* desire for vengeance, it has been characterised by a quiet determination to atone for the poor performance against Ita*ly with a convincing* win over Georgia.

"I have always said that I can see us qualifying for the finals outright," Glenn *Hoddle*, the *England* coach, said yesterday. "I feel we have got the players. Everyone seems to have cast us aside after that one result against Italy. Well, as far as I'm concerned we start again on *Wednesday, we win the match* and we go from there."

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	5	4	1	0	8	1	13
England	4	3	0	1	7	2	9
Poland	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Georgia	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Moldova	4	0	0	4	2	11	0

RESULTS: Moldova 0 England 3; Moldova 1 Italy 3; England 2 Poland 1; Italy 1 Georgia 0; Georgia 0 England 2; Poland 2 Moldova 1; England 0 Italy 1; Italy 3 Moldova 0; Poland 0 Italy 0

MATCHES TO COME: Today: England v Georgia; Italy v Poland. May 31: Poland v England. June 7: Georgia v Moldova. June 14: Poland v Georgia. Sept 10: England v Moldova; Georgia v Italy. Sept 24: Moldova v Georgia. Oct 7: Moldova v Poland. Oct 11: Italy v England; Georgia v Poland

In his quest for the spirit of last summer, Hoddle will at last be able to draw not only on the return of David Seaman, absent against Italy, but also on the attacking partnership that was, in many ways, the greatest success of England's drive towards the semi-finals of Euro 96, the pairing of Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham.

In each of Hoddle's five games in charge so far, one or the other has been injured, but, even though Sheringham has been suffering from an infected toe this week, both are fit and expected to spearhead the attack against a Georgia defence that conceded only one goal in their defeat in Italy last October.

The resurrection of their partnership has prompted comparisions with the pairing of Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley that was so successful for a previous England side. "Shearer and Sheringham had a great summer together," Hoddle said. "They played extremely well in a couple of games. If you have got two strikers who are similar, that causes problems but these two have got a nice balance. Teddy is somebody who *thinks about the game* as it is developing."

Shearer, confirmed as the England captain yesterday, was so studiously non-controversial during his press conference that he refused to acknowledge that Sheringham was his favourite striking partner. He enjoyed playing football, he said, it did not matter who was in attack *with him.*

"People have always said that Teddy is not quick enough," Shearer said. "But for me, he has got two yards in his head. He is very clever and we link up very well and I think there is scope for our partnership to improve from what it was in Euro 96. But it would be wrong just to mention him."

Finally, Shearer even injected a little humour into his observations. "In some ways, I think Teddy and I are similar," he said. "But I think he is a lot more likely to pass to me than I am to him. If I had the ball, he was in a better position and I had no chance to score, I would still shoot."

ENGLAND (probable): D Seaman (Arsenal), G Neville (Manchester United), A Adams (Arsenal), S Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur), D Beckham (Manchester United), P Ince (Internazionale), D Batty (Newcastle United), S McManaman (Liverpool), G Le Saux (Blackburn Rovers), E Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur), A Shearer (Newcastle United)

Cronje, right, helps to open a bottle of champagne in Clontarf to start the celebration of Ireland's first victory over a county side

Ireland take the bull by the horns

From Michael Henderson in Dublin

DUBLIN: Ireland (2pts) beat Middlesex by 46 runs

AN ENGLISH translation of *Clontarf* is *"meadow of the bull"* and yesterday, in this north Dublin suburb, Middlesex were the victims of the season's first unlikely bovine charge. Ireland took the four wickets that remained overnight within an hour in this Benson and Hedges Cup match to record their first victory over a county side.

Rejoice with them. Middlesex, *to their immense credit*, did, lining up to greet their victors as they left the field. Ireland played good cricket in this match and Mike Gatting, the Middlesex captain, would take nothing away from their *performance. This was a mar*vellous day for the undervalued and it was much savoured by the hardy band of Irish cricket-lovers who had gathered to witness the moment of triumph.

Afterwards, as radio and television crews conducted six *interviews with various play*ers and officials on the outfield, in front of the pleasant club house, people reflected with good cheer on this day of days. Decker Curry's nomination for the gold award, ahead *of Hansie Cronje, proved a* popular choice, and there was brave talk of beating Essex when they go to Downpatrick in two weeks' time.

Curry, *the opening* batsman, alas, will not be at Taunton on Friday because of *work commitments*, but his brilliant 75 set the tone of their innings on Monday and he is hoping to play against Glamorgan in Cardiff next Monday. If he makes it, go and watch him. Get there early. He may dazzle, or perish quickly.

Justin Benson, the Ireland captain and once of Leicestershire, basked in the glow of *victory, but remained unhap*py about the way that Ireland lost the recent ICC Trophy play-off to Scotland in Kuala Lumpur. "People said we choked," he said, "but it wasn't that. We were complacent that day, and let down Mike *Hendrick [the team coach]*; but we were sharp in this match."

Middlesex began the day needing to make 148 in 17.4 overs and, after Jamie Hewitt swung Benson to Angus Dun*lop at deep mid-wicket, they* were 103 short with ten overs to go. It was then that Peter Gillespie, running in 30 yards from long on, took a superb diving catch to dismiss Keith Brown. To reach the ball was *a fair effort and to keep his* footing on the wet outfield as he tumbled over made it a magnificent catch.

For a while, Fraser and *Tufnell frolicked* and, with two wickets in hand, a target of 59 from five overs was just about possible. Fraser, relishing his role with the bat, struck two sixes. Cronje returned to bowl Tufnell, his *third wicket to set beside his* unbeaten 94, and the game was up when Cook, having driven Heasley for six, missed the next ball but one. Fraser was unbeaten with 30.

Gatting and Cronje agreed that Curry's early blast gave Ireland an edge that they *retained. "They have obvious*ly done their homework on the 50-over game," Gatting said. "They got off to a good start and, when you stick somebody like Cronje in the middle of it, and he bats as he did, you're *up against a pretty good* team."

Benson and Hendrick were busy men later, as the world and his wife wanted a piece of *them. A spectator revealed* how, when he heard a report on the BBC World Service the previous night, mentioning how Middlesex were up a gum tree in Dublin, he nearly leapt out of bed in shock. That's the *measure of what Ireland's* cricketers achieved yesterday, and it was grand to see their pleasure at a job well done.

DUBLIN SCOREBOARD

IRELAND

J D Curry b Weekes	75
W K McCallan c Brown b Fraser	17
D A Lewis b Tufnell	34
W J Cronje not out	94
*J D R Benson b Hewitt	20
†A Patterson not out	24
Extras (lb 10, w 3, nb 4)	17
Total (4 wkts, 50 overs)	281

A R Dunlop, D Heasley, P G Gillespie, G L Mollins and P McCrum did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-72, 2-117, 3-165, 4-234.

BOWLING: Fraser 10-3-34-1; Cook 9-0-71-0; Hewitt 10-0-53-1; Weekes 10-0-47-1; *Tufnell 6-0-37-1; Dutch 5-0-29-0.*

MIDDLESEX

P N Weekes c Gillespie b Heasley	24
P E Wellings lbw b Cronje	23
M R Ramprakash lbw b Cronje	34
*M W Gatting c and b Benson	23
J C Pooley b Benson	11
†K R Brown c Gillespie b Mollins	27
K P Dutch st Patterson b Mollins	1
J P Hewitt c Curry b Benson	14
A R C Fraser not out	30
P C R Tufnell b Cronje	10
S J Cook b Heasley	6
Extras (b 3, lb 14, w 15)	32
Total (46.4 overs)	235

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-69, 3-104, 4-126, 5-133, 6-134, 7-175, 8-180, 9-227

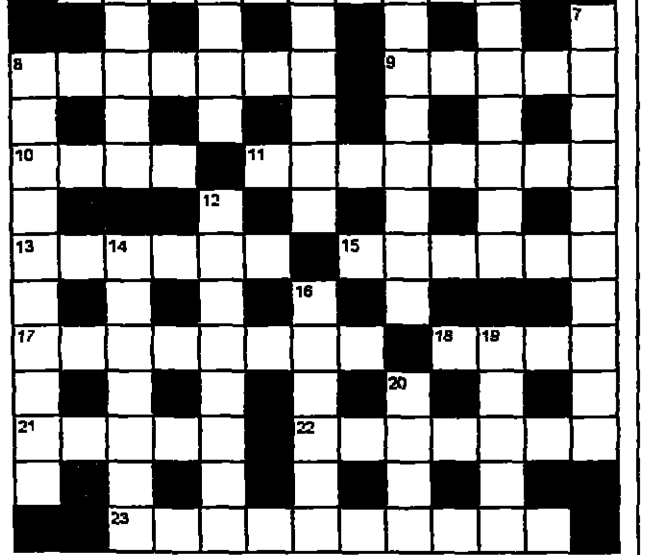
BOWLING: Gillespie 8-0-40-0; McCrum 6-0-21-0; Heasley 5.4-0-30-2; Cronje 8-0-38-3; Mollins 10-0-44-2; Benson 9-0-45-3

Gold award: J D Curry.

Umpires: J W Holder and A A Jones.

Yorkshire triumph 52
Bett off 52
Boon's burden 53

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1081

ACROSS
1 Back matter in book (10)
8 One-eighth of a mile (7)
9 John Philip —, the *March King* (5)
10 Vegetable: sounds like *liquid escape* (4)
11 Residential outskirts (8)
13 Very hot (6)
15 Very nasty (6)
17 Ancien régime Paris prison (8)
18 A defect (4)
21 Greek *th* (5)
22 Without guile, embellishment (7)
23 On which gymnasts bounce (10)

DOWN
2 Contract; moneybag (5)
3 Love; his London statue (4)
4 Canoe; manager's bench *(football)* (6)
5 Dorothea's boring husband *(Middlemarch)* (8)
6 Sleep (7)
7 By a long distance (3,3,4)
8 Crumble away (4,2,4)
12 World's highest lake (S.Am.) (8)
14 Consideration; admiration (7)
16 Lavish (meal) (4-2)
19 First Soviet leader (5)
20 Dance; sphere (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1080

ACROSS: 1 Robe 3 Step down 8 Sizable 10 Tweak 11 Helen of Troy 13 Uproot 15 Bridal 17 Take-home pay 20 Adieu 21 Risotto 22 Grannies 23 Hymn

DOWN: 1 Rush hour 2 Bezel 4 Tee off 5 Peter Grimes 6 One-eyed 7 Nuke 9 Bannockburn 12 Play down 14 Retsina 16 Charge 18 Petty 19 Fang

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1076
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

ACROSS: 1 Graphite 5 Siam 8 Absurdly 9 Amos 11 Tipsy 12 Overrun 13 Dim sum 15 Public 18 Insular 19 Apron 21 Crux 22 Inedible 23 Slew 24 Reported

DOWN: 1 Granted 2 Aesop 3 Hurly-burly 4 Tallow 6 Immoral 7 Mason 10 Get-up-and-go 14 Misrule 16 Contend 17 Brontë 18 Incus 20 Robot

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is C Barnes, Belfast.

2nd PRIZE *of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND'S* domestic network is D Honey, Halesowen.

All flights subject to availability.

Model professionals toy with the relegation issue

Andrew Jones on the heavy price to be paid for being taken out of the shop window

For Stuart Pearce, hero and villain of penalty shoot-outs with England and talismanic leader of Nottingham Forest, the game is almost up. One of the most instantly recognisable figures in English football looks doomed to spend next season shut in a cardboard box and *locked in a stockroom in High* Wycombe.

He will not want for company, reminders of the harsh reality of relegation from the *FA Carling Premiership will* be all around. His Forest team-mates will be there for a start and the surrounding shelves may be filled by superstars *such as Juninho*, Fabrizio Ravanelli, or perhaps even Julian Dicks, a defender in the Pearce mould.

Among the many pitfalls of the loss of a cherished place in the Premiership is that whole teams become persona non grata to Corinthian, the Buckinghamshire firm that makes seven centimetre figurines of players from leading clubs.

Surprise relegation candidates such as Forest and Middlesbrough can cost the company thousands of *pounds in lost revenue.* The result is that Corinthian fret over the changing fortunes at *the foot of the Premiership* almost as much as supporters of the clubs that are involved.

Gary Booker, marketing director of the company, said: "*We do not currently* have a licence with the Nationwide League, and stores are reluctant to keep players from relegated clubs on their shelves. Once a club leaves the Premiership the focus is off them and this does have an effect on stock-holding."

More than 10 million of the £2.25 figures have been sold since their launch in September 1995, and they were the third top-selling toy in the UK last Christmas, behind Action Man and Barbie.

But choosing which players to feature can be an expensive gamble at £1,000 per man for *development and production* costs. Six months is the mini*mum time it takes from the* decision to produce a model to it appearing in shops, time for careers and reputations to plummet.

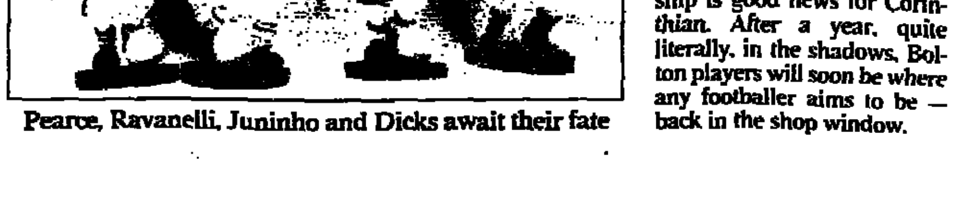
"We obviously expected Nottingham Forest and Middlesbrough to do better than they have," Booker said. "Our boxed team set of Forest only reached the stores in October 1996."

*It wasn't the only disap*pointment caused by Forest — an original model and mould of Frank Clark had been approved for Corinthian's *range of Premiership manag*ers, but his resignation came a few days before the models were to due to go into production.

Corinthian could do nothing about 5,000 Kevin Keegan figures. The models were expected to be one of the company's top sellers, but a matter of hours after a shipment of finished Keegans had left the factory in China for the UK, the real Keegan resigned as *manager* of Newcastle United. Booker said: "It's just one of those things we have learned to live with in our business."

The first season in the Premiership for promoted *clubs can have many* pitfalls for the company and, with the recent record of many new arrivals, no figures were produced for Sunderland, Derby County or Leicester City this season.

Sadly, for Barnsley fans, the club's first season in the top division may not be marked with a figure of even one of their players, but Bolton's quick return to the Premiership is good news for Corin*thian*. After a year, quite literally, in the shadows, Bolton players will soon be where any footballer aims to be — back in the shop window.



Pearce, Ravanelli, Juninho and Dicks await their fate

Lewis gets go ahead to take on Akinwande

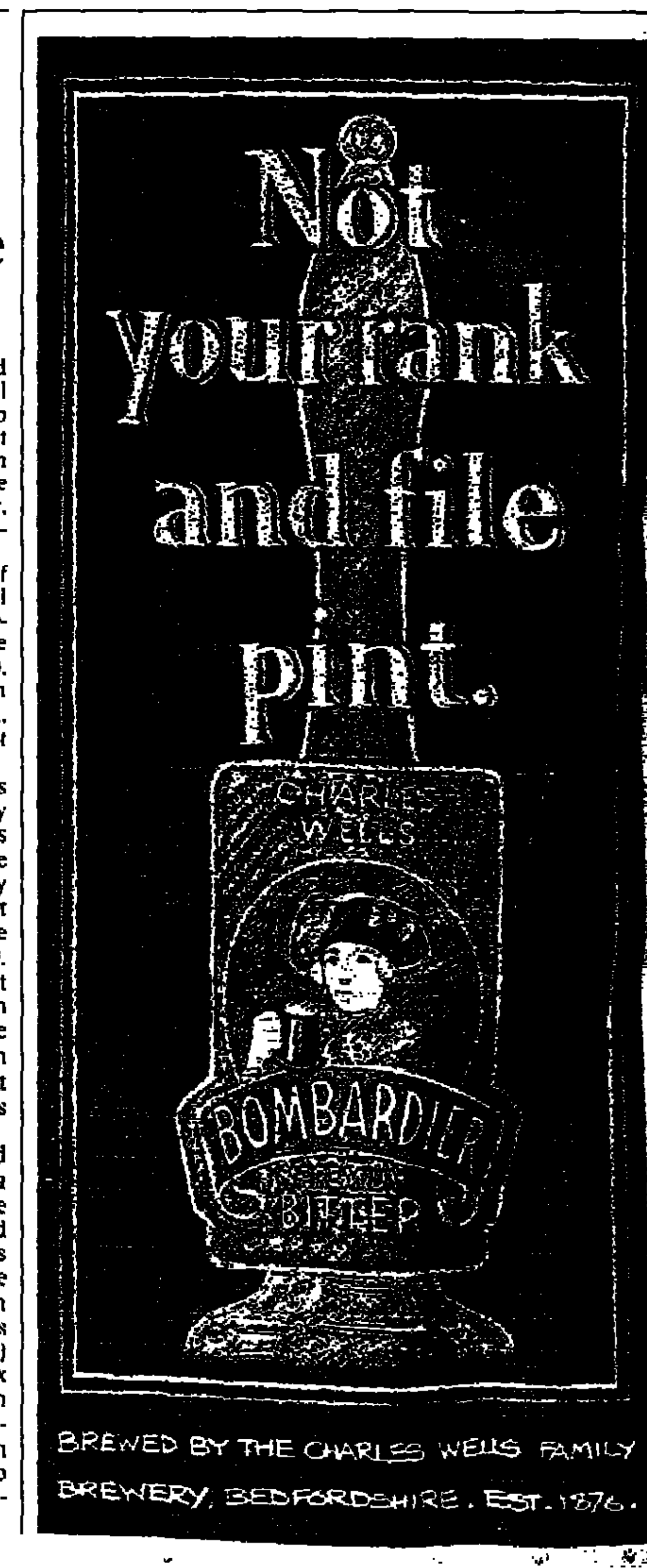
By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

LENNOX LEWIS will defend his World Boxing Council heavyweight championship against Henry Akinwande at *Atlantic City, New Jersey*, on July 10. The bout will be staged by Lewis's promoter, Panix, together with its American associate, Main Events.

Panos Eliades, the head of Panix, concluded the deal yesterday after signing agreements with Don King, the American promotor, HBO, the American cable television company, and Sky Television, which will show the bout at 11.59pm.

Eliades said that Lewis was delighted that his company had secured the bout and was happy to get on with the contest, to get it out of the way and *prepare* for his next contest, which he hopes will be against Evander *Holyfield*. Lewis is confident that Holyfield will beat Tyson again when they meet on June 28. Lewis is already training in *Miami* and will move next week to the Pocono mountains *in Pennsylvania*.

Eliades added that he had been in talks with King for a month. King wanted to come to an arrangement as he did not want to go to purse offers for fear of having to bid more *than* the fight would be worth to secure it. He offered Lewis $6 million (about £3.7 *million*) to sign a deal, but Panix offered to buy the promotion by making King a counter-offer, which is believed to be in the region of $3 million to stage the show and the American *promotor readily agreed*.



Not your rank and file pint.
CHARLES WELLS
BOMBARDIER
BITTER
BREWED BY THE CHARLES WELLS FAMILY BREWERY, BEDFORDSHIRE. EST. 1876.